

OIC urges U.N. action on Lebanon

BAHRAIN (R) — The Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) called on the U.N. Security Council Friday to act urgently on Lebanon's complaint against Israeli activities in South Lebanon, the Saudi Press Agency reported. It said a statement by the OIC secretariat-general also called on all 45 OIC members to support Lebanon in taking necessary measures to protect South Lebanese against what the statement described as "the brutal attacks by the Israeli enemy." The statement said "the attacks are clear proof of the Zionist entity's challenge for international law and human rights." A resolution before the Security Council calls for the U.N. to censure Israel for recent military actions involving Lebanese civilians and to send a fact-finding team to South Lebanon to examine charges that the Israelis violated international law.

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Shawa: Peace moves hinge on U.S.

PARIS (R) — A Palestinian leader in Israeli-occupied Gaza said Friday recent Middle East peace initiatives by Egypt and Jordan offered hope for a settlement but hinged entirely on the United States. Rashad Al Shawa, deposed as mayor of Gaza by the Israelis in 1982, told reporters: "I can't see any other option. All the eggs are in the U.S. basket. I am hoping the U.S. will come back to its senses and show balance in its policy." He said he supported Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's plans for peace talks. "I have full confidence in President Mubarak, in King Hussein and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). If they get together they have my support," he said. Mr. Mubarak, who visited Paris Friday on his way to Washington, has suggested talks between the U.S. and a joint Jordan-PLO team which would eventually include Israel.

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Hague extends role in UNIFIL

THE HAGUE (R) — The Dutch cabinet decided Friday to extend the Netherlands' participation in the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) by six months, Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers said. The present U.N. mandate ends on April 19. The Dutch contingent in the UNIFIL peacekeeping force consists of about 160 men.

Turkish Cypriots prepare constitution

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish-Cypriot parliamentarians finished debating a new independence constitution Friday for their part of the divided Mediterranean island. The document, which drops mention of a possible federal republic with Greek Cypriots from the present constitution, is expected to be approved next Tuesday, officials said. However, a draft resolution also expected to be passed says the constitution is not a barrier to a federation.

India to file case against Union Carbide

NEW DELHI (R) — The Indian government will file a lawsuit in the United States on behalf of all victims of the gas leak that killed 2,500 people last December. Minister of State for Law H.R. Bhadrani said the suit would be filed in a few days. He said the suit will name the U.S. Union Carbide Corporation as main defendant. It will require all American lawyers who have already filed claims on behalf of victims to act under the instructions of India's main counsel.

Second Sharon case begins May 7

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon's second libel case against the weekly news magazine Time is to start in Tel Aviv district court on May 7, the daily Haaretz newspaper reported Friday. Sharon filed his \$250,000 suit against Time's European publishing subsidiary in March 1983, his lawyer Dov Weisglas told the Associated Press. The libel case, like the one he lost against Time in a New York court in January, is based on a February 1983 article in Time saying that a secret report by an Israeli inquiry commission found he had discussed the "need for revenge" with the family of the assassinated President-elect of Lebanon, Bashir Gemayel.

S.Africa detains student leaders

CAPE TOWN (R) — South African police raided the homes of student leaders here early Friday morning and arrested 12 people on charges of attending an illegal gathering last November, police and students said. The 12 were later released on bail. Students sources said police were seeking a further 92 people in connection with a demonstration at the University of Cape Town against the detention without trial of Kate Philip, then president of the National Union on South African Students.

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150 injured in car bomb explosion 40 killed in blast near Beirut mosque

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A car bomb exploded Friday outside a crowded mosque in a densely populated west Beirut suburb, and police said 40 people were killed and more than 150 others wounded.

Beirut radio appealed for urgent blood donations, announcing the hospitals in west Beirut were unable to cope with "this catastrophe."

It said the blast in the neighbourhood of Gbobeiri collapsed a multiple-storey apartment building and severely damaged a mosque where worshippers were gathering for dusk prayers.

A nearby movie theatre was also damaged during the screening of a film and four other apartment buildings caught fire, the radio report said.

The blast was the worst such explosion in Beirut since the twin truck bombing of American and French peacekeeping headquarters here on Oct. 23, 1983, which killed 241 U.S. servicemen and 58 French soldiers.

The radio report said its list of dead and wounded came from the emergency rooms at five hospitals in west Beirut.

Police said investigators estimated the weight of the bomb at 100 kilograms of explosives. They said the make of the car could not be determined because it was reduced to small chunks of twisted metal.

Rescuers were still searching for survivors buried under the rubble

of the eight-storey building more than an hour after the blast, and firemen were fighting blazes in dozens of cars set afire in a parking lot between the movie theatre and the mosque.

The blast occurred at 5:05 p.m. (1505 GMT), and witnesses said they could see from a distance huge clouds of white and grey smoke billowing from the scene.

The mosque is also within 100 metres of the home of Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah who, though he has denied it, is thought to be a leader of the Shi'ite Muslim "Hezbollah" (Party of God).

The state radio quoted a spokesman at Sheikh Fadlallah's home as saying he and his family were not hurt. Hezbollah is thought to be the umbrella for several radical organisations blamed for attacks on Western interests in Lebanon.

U.S. intelligence sources in Washington were quoted as saying Sheikh Fadlallah blessed the suicide drivers who blew up the U.S. and French headquarters. He denied that report.

Sirens could be heard throughout west Beirut, as well as gunfire from militiamen shooting in the air to break up rush-hour traffic so emergency vehicles

could move. Fleets of ambulances jammed the entrance to west Beirut's main hospital.

Passers-by dashed for cover as truckloads of militiamen raced through the streets.

Streets soon emptied of traffic apart from ambulances and militia vehicles.

The street around the explosion site was littered with rubble and the burnt hulks of several autos. Militiamen and rescuers could be seen digging through the wreckage of the collapsed building for survivors and entering nearby structures looking for injured.

The blast left a crater three metres deep and five metres across, the police said.

Police also quoted one witness as saying the vehicle had been left in front of a tyre shop by a man who said he would return for it shortly. However, that report also did not include the make of the car.

A car bombing in the same neighbourhood killed five people and injured 44 on Feb. 18.

Friday's bombing was the second this year somehow associated with fundamentalist Muslim leaders.

On Feb. 1, a car bomb exploded outside a mosque in the northern port city of Tripoli that was newly built by Sheikh Saad Shaaban, leader of *Tawheed* (Islamic Unification Movement).

Twelve people were killed and more 50 wounded in that blast, but Sheikh Shaaban was out of the country at the time.

Israelis close Birzeit for two months

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities Friday closed one of the largest university campuses in the occupied West Bank for two months to punish students for staging a Palestinian cultural exhibition, the authorities said.

They also announced further measures were expected against Birzeit University, north of Jerusalem, following the discovery of "material of incitement" there last weekend.

The decision to close Birzeit's new campus, used by 1,500 students, was taken despite U.S. government appeals to reopen the university.

Classes will be allowed to resume at Birzeit's smaller, old campus which is attended by 900 students.

The university was closed last Sunday after an overnight raid by the occupation army to break up a Palestinian exhibition.

The Israeli statement said investigations were continuing into the role played by several dozen students who were arrested during the raid.

Israel Radio quoted Birzeit's Acting President Gaby Baramki as saying he would try to organise university classes on the old campus.

Birzeit, one of the focal points of Palestinian nationalism in the West Bank, has been shut down by the Israelis 10 times in the past six years for periods ranging from four days to three months. The accumulated closures until now amounted to 12 months.

The United States has consistently opposed the closure of Palestinian campuses. This week the State Department urged Israel to take no action that would harm those seeking genuine educational opportunities.

Last year Israel shut down Al Najah, the largest Palestinian university in the West Bank, for four months following a raid on a similar exhibition.

Dr. Baramki told Reuters he

S. Lebanon tense after 4 attacks on Israelis

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Villages near the South Lebanese port of Tyre were tense Friday after four night attacks on Israeli occupation forces and a five-hour battle between Israeli and Lebanese troops.

Resistance forces opened fire just before midnight at a stronghold of the pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia outside the village of Yatar, a spokesman for peacekeeping forces in the area said.

SLA militiamen responded by launching mortars and spraying the area with machine-gun fire, some of it directed towards Irish U.N. troops at checkpoints 50 metres either side of the SLA position, he said (See page 2). The Irish troops held their fire.

Yatar was the scene of a bloody gunbattle on Wednesday pitting Israeli intelligence agents and SLA militiamen against unidentified men. A 16-year-old girl was killed and three women injured in the clash.

Villages near Tyre known for fierce opposition to Israeli occupation have been raided almost daily for two weeks by Israeli troops cracking down on resistance.

The villagers, under dusk-to-dawn curfew and banned from travelling alone, appeared quiet

but tense Friday. Israeli troops caused panic and confusion Friday when they fired their automatic weapons over the heads of more than 2,000 travellers, mainly women, queuing to cross into the occupied south at an Israeli checkpoint south-east of Sidon.

The checkpoint is two kilometres from the scene of a five-hour battle Thursday which pitted Israeli troops against Lebanese soldiers and militiamen. An Israeli soldier and two militiamen of the Shi'ite Amal movement were killed (See page 2).

Eyewitnesses said Israeli soldiers advanced on the crowd at the checkpoint, shooting automatic weapons in the air and using loudspeakers to order the travellers to stay away.

An SLA post Thursday night came under machine-gun and rocket fire near Qaqaayiet Al Jisr, south-west of the town of Nabatieh, security sources said.

Resistance men twice attacked an Israeli position west of Deir Qanoun Al Nahr village, north of Tyre, security sources said. There was no immediate word on casualties in any of the attacks.

Berri vows to fight on until Israelis withdraw, page 2

Reagan dispatches team to arms talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan dispatched American arms negotiators Friday to Geneva, cautioning that talks with the Soviet Union to curb nuclear arsenals will be long and difficult, but instructing his team to "explore every promising avenue for progress."

In a formal sendoff at the White House for the U.S. delegation, Mr. Reagan said, "Like Americans everywhere, I want these negotiations to succeed and will do everything I can to ensure that this happens. I pray that the Soviet leadership is prepared to make the same commitment."

Mr. Reagan met over breakfast in the state dining room with his bargaining team, congressional observers of the Geneva talks, Secretary of State George Shultz, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane.

After the meeting, Mr. Reagan met in the Oval Office to give the negotiators what he called "instructions for the first round of talks" — hinting that U.S. strategy for the negotiations will continue to unfold in the days ahead.

Mr. Reagan said, "these instructions enable our negotiators to explore every promising avenue." Noting that both the United States and Soviet Union have expressed hopes of eventually eliminating all nuclear weapons, Mr. Reagan said, "it is now our task and responsibility to take practical steps to turn this venture into reality."

"We should have no illusions that this will be easy since any venture of this magnitude will take time," the president said. "And since the most vital security interests of both sides are at stake, this will clearly be long and difficult."

France welcomes Egyptian plan, cautions against hurdles

PARIS (Agencies) — France said Friday it finds the peace initiative of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt a means of "simplifying and accelerating" the Middle East peace process. But it cautioned that such an energetic initiative risks running into opposition.

The French statement, its first public reaction to the proposal for direct talks between the U.S. and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and prior to bringing in Israel, followed a nearly three-hour meeting between Mr. Mubarak and President Francois Mitterrand.

The Egyptian leader arrived here earlier in the day for talks before going on Saturday to Washington and a meeting with President Ronald Reagan.

France supports all initiatives as long as they help close the gap between the various points of view, said presidential diplomatic counsellor Hubert Vedrine.

He said the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "constitutes an advance in the right direction. The Mubarak proposal simplifies the method at the same time as it accelerates (the process). Like all energetic actions, it risks being opposed. France hopes, globally, that nothing is ever done which would hurt the chances for peace."

President Mubarak said after Friday's talks he had sought French help to persuade the United States support the Egyptian plan. Mr. Mubarak said after three hours of talks with President Mitterrand: "I have asked President Mitterrand to support our diplomatic moves towards the United States."

Mr. Vedrine told reporters that France was planning contacts with Washington on the subject but declined to elaborate.

However, Mr. Vedrine expressed reservations about Mr. Mubarak's initiative. "Mr. Mubarak's initiative simplifies the process and causes an acceleration which contains the risk of being harmful to peace moves," he said.

Mr. Mubarak's call came a day after PLO leader Yasser Arafat urged France to play a greater role in the search for peace between the Arabs and Israel.

Mr. Arafat was speaking to French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas in Tunis (See story below).

The talks Mr. Mubarak is suggesting would cover proposals agreed last month between Jordan and the PLO which offer peace in exchange for Israeli withdrawal from Arab land occupied in 1967.

His Majesty King Hussein said after holding talks with Mr. Mubarak on Wednesday: "I believe this may be the last chance for peace. In fact this is the last chance."

Mr. Mubarak said Friday that Washington's first response to his initiative had been "positive to a certain extent."

The United States refuses to take part in any talks involving the PLO until the PLO explicitly recognises Israel.

Mr. Mubarak's meeting with Mr. Mitterrand was his 10th in four years. "President Mitterrand and I had a long and in-depth exchange of views and we realised we were very close to one another on most topics," Mr. Mubarak said.

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Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left) and French President Francois Mitterrand (right) before talks at the Elysee Palace Friday (AP wirephoto)

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Iran, Iraq report shellings, casualties

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq and Iran shelled each other's towns and both reported casualties Friday in their 53-month-old Gulf war.

A number of people were killed or wounded in the southern Iraqi port of Basra when Iranian artillery shelled Iraq's second largest city for the third time this week, residents said.

They told Reuters by telephone sporadic shelling, aimed mainly at the city's suburbs, started at 1.30 p.m. (1030 GMT) and continued for more than four hours.

No death toll was immediately available. But the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said several people were killed or wounded and a number of houses and cars were damaged.

One Basra resident said he could hear explosions every 15 or 20 minutes. The shells appeared to be landing in palm groves along the Shatt Al Arab waterway, away from the most populated areas of the city of over one million.

In Tehran, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Iraq bombed four Iranian towns Friday, killing and wounding hundreds of people in a further escalation of the Gulf war.

After Iran launched its new bombardment of Basra on Tuesday, Iraq threatened strikes against some 30 Iranian cities and towns.

A daily war communique issued in Baghdad said Iraqi planes flew 242 combat missions Friday against what it said were the "remnants of Iranian troops, their positions and equipment."

Referring to the bombardment of Basra, the Iraqi communique said "this crime will not go unpunished and we will retaliate against the Iranian rulers' savagery until they cease committing such crimes."

IRNA said Iraqi fighter-bombers attacked Susangerd, Abadan and Khorramshahr in Iran's southern Khuzestan province.

The latest series of strikes on civilian centres started with alleged Iraqi raids on Monday on an unfinished nuclear plant at Bushehr and a steel complex at Ahvaz.

Two Iraqi planes also attacked the battered oil town of Abadan, across the Shatt Al Arab waterway from Basra, killing 10 people, wounding six and destroying 50 houses and shops, IRNA said.

The border town of Bostan in Khuzestan province also came under air attack, IRNA said. The Iranian military, however, control the town and civilians have not been allowed to return since Iraqi forces withdrew from the town last year.

Bahraini, Yemeni leaders receive Hussein's message

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, Friday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein on the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a formula for joint action towards settling the Palestinian problem.

The message was delivered by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri to Sheikh Isa.

Later on Friday, Mr. Masri arrived in Doha, Qatar, and was expected to meet the emir of Qatar.

The leaders of South and North Yemen also received similar messages from the King on Thursday. Mr. Masri visited the North Yemeni capital of Sana'a and delivered the message to President Ali Abdullah Saleh and proceeded to Aden, the South Yemeni capital, where he delivered a similar message to President Ali Nasser Mohammad.

King receives Somali message

Meanwhile in Amman, King Hussein received a message from Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre, dwelling on Somalia's stand on the Jordan-PLO agreement.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted Somali Foreign Minister Mohammad Ali Hamid, who delivered the message to the King, on Thursday, that Somalia supports all efforts to bring Arab voices together for solving the Palestinian problem.

Israeli leaders split on Mubarak initiative

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres Friday praised Egypt's new Middle East peace initiative but his deputy, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, was reported to have called it a "trick."

"I welcome (Egyptian) President Mubarak's remarks and I want to promise him personally that we are working for peace," Mr. Peres told the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper.

"I believe with all my heart that through cooperative discussion we can overcome all the problems along the way."

Egypt wants the United States to start a dialogue with a

Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and later bring Israel to peace talks which would expand into an international peace conference.

The Jerusalem Post reported Mr. Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc in Mr. Peres' multi-party government, contended in a speech Thursday that the Arabs knew they "could not defeat Israel militarily" and were instead "resorting to wily tricks."

Mr. Shamir rejected an Israeli pullback to its pre-1967 war borders, saying "Israel will never agree to live within borders which will not enable it to exist in security and peace."

In a Cairo interview with Yed-

ioth, Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali dismissed Israeli fears that Mr. Mubarak's peace initiative was aimed only at improving Egypt's image prior to Mr. Mubarak's visit to Washington next week.

"I know there are those in Israel who believe that immediately after President Mubarak returns from Washington, all the peace contacts between us will be stopped," Mr. Ali said.

"I repeat and emphasise: We are not bluffing you. We are not working behind your backs. Egypt is serious."

Mr. Ali told the newspaper that new peace moves were underway

which would be acceptable to both Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

He said he could not reveal who would participate in a joint Jordanian-PLO peace delegation but believed Israel "can accept the conclusion which will be reached."

Israel has rejected the participation of any PLO member in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in direct peace negotiations. It is also concerned that Egypt wants to bring about direct and open contacts between the United States and the PLO, which the U.S. administration has rejected up till now.

Berri vows to fight on until Israelis withdraw

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri has vowed that his Amal militia would fight on until Israeli forces left Lebanese territory.

Amal sources said two of its men were killed Thursday in the second clash in a week between the Israeli army and an alliance of Shi'ites from the village of Kawthariet As Sayad and Lebanese troops.

Israel said one of its soldiers was killed. Reuter correspondent Nazih Naqouzi, who watched part of the five-hour battle, said at least one other Israeli casualty was taken away by helicopter. Israeli tank and machine-gun fire wounded several Lebanese soldiers, destroyed seven houses and set fire to two cars near army positions in the village.

Amal has been in the forefront of commando opposition to the Israeli presence in the South. Mr. Berri told students who marched to the United Nations office in west Beirut: "Israel says they are ready to leave on condition the operations against them stop. We say no, one thousand nos. We will follow them to the last inch of the south."

The marchers were demanding support for Lebanon's complaint heard Thursday night by the U.N. Security Council about Israel's behaviour in the South. Lebanon asked the council to order Israel to cease its actions since it began an offensive two weeks ago against the Shi'ite community in the Tyre area to counter increasing commando attacks on its troops. Security sources said Israeli troops in 20 armoured personnel carriers raided two Shi'ite villages near Tyre Thursday and rounded up villagers for questioning.

Fove foreign and Lebanese journalists trying to reach the site of one of the raids were detained by Israeli soldiers who seized their film and ordered them out of the area.

In Beirut, sporadic fighting broke out along the "Green Line" separating east Beirut and the mainly Muslim western sector and

in the mountains east of the capital. No casualties were reported.

Israel denies savagery

Meanwhile the Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, on Friday denied reports of Israeli savagery in South Lebanon, saying in a radio interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) that news reports were distorted. But the BBC's correspondent in Beirut, Gerald Butts, accused the withdrawing Israelis of panicking and firing blindly at anyone they regarded as suspicious.

Mr. Kimche was asked in the telephone interview with the BBC about reports by some news organisations that Israeli soldiers had been behaving savagely toward villagers.

He replied: "I think there has been a great deal of distortion in reporting from the Lebanon ... I believe our soldiers are acting under very great restraint. They have very strict orders and we are pinpointing targets. We are only entering places where we know there are weapons stored."

"We certainly wanted it to be a peaceful withdrawal ... unfortunately, the Lebanese leaders publicly made declarations encouraging the increase of what they call resistance and what we call terrorist acts and we found ourselves being attacked daily by terrorists. We therefore had to take action to protect the lives of our soldiers," he said.

The BBC broadcast the interview on its domestic British service. In an immediately subsequent news item, Butts refuted Mr. Kimche's remarks about distortion in new reports, stating: "For one thing, the Israelis are doing their utmost to prevent any reporting of events in southern

Lebanon. Those of us accredited in Beirut are now banned from going into the South and in recent days more than a dozen of my colleagues have been arrested and expelled by the Israelis."

But he said reporters were still getting into the area and had seen "Israeli troops ... panicking, firing blindly at anything and at anyone they regard as suspicious, sometimes in crowded towns and villages, sometimes in the countryside."

Butt said civilians queuing to give blood after a bomb blast Monday at a mosque at Maarak near the port city of Tyre were "dragged away in a most ruthless manner by Israeli troops."

This is all contributing to the atmosphere of fear ... Fear on the part of the Israeli soldiers who expect to be attacked at any time and fear now on the part of the civilians who don't quite know how the Israelis are going to behave next," Butts said.

The London Times on Friday reported what it said was an Israeli Shin Bet intelligence operation at the village of Yatar on Wednesday which went wrong, leaving a 16-year-old girl dead and three women injured.

Times correspondent Robert Fisk quoted villagers and Israeli troops with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) saying cars carrying men with Israeli military identity cards arrived at the village seeking commandos.

He said three of the men fired into a crowd of women with Kalashnikov automatic rifles and that Israelis in plain clothes then also began firing into the crowd.

"All the sources agree that a guerrilla then opened fire ... hitting one of the pro-Israeli gunmen, and the small village street became engulfed in shooting. Sources say an Israeli army patrol arrived from their post in the village shooting at the Israelis to stop firing. Both the Shin Bet men and their Lebanese allies were then seen running away as the villagers surged forward and set fire to their vehicles," he said.



WATCHING MOVES: Two fighters of Lebanese national resistance armed with rocket-propelled grenades look towards Israeli troops Thursday (AP wirephoto)

Ban on Beirut-based reporters in S. Lebanon to continue

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army will continue to ban Beirut-based journalists from occupied South Lebanon and allow correspondents from Israel to enter only with an army escort, a spokesman said Friday.

The army announced last month that only Israeli-based journalists accompanied by military escorts could enter South Lebanon. Troops detained nine Beirut-based reporters this week.

The Foreign Press Association (FPA) in Israel Thursday protested against the detentions and urged the military to lift all restrictions on news coverage.

The spokesman said the army could not permit reporters to accompany troops on operations "for understandable reasons." But he said dozens of correspondents would be allowed to enter the area weekly from next week.

The army has arranged only a few trips into the South for Israeli-based correspondents since the Feb. 16 Israeli pullback from the Sidon area, and crackdown against Shi'ite Muslim villages.

"The board of the FPA in Israel protests strongly the lack of access to South Lebanon in recent weeks to cover spot news," the FPA said. "We view this as a serious encroachment on press freedom and urge an immediate reconsideration of this policy."

The statement added: "The board of the FPA also views with alarm measures taken by Israeli authorities in harassing and defaming legitimate journalists based in Lebanon and the confiscation of their material."

At a checkpoint on a road near Tyre, Israeli soldiers Thursday held five more foreign and Lebanese correspondents at gunpoint for two hours and told them to go back to Beirut after confiscating their films, colleagues said.

Israel warns Lebanese army against clashes

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Deputy Prime Minister David Levy warned Friday that Lebanon would be headed for self-destruction if there were any more clashes between the Lebanese army and the Israeli army.

Mr. Levy spoke in an interview with Israeli Radio after attending the funeral of an Israeli soldier killed Thursday in a two-hour clash between the two armies in South Lebanon.

The radio quoted Mr. Levy, a leading member of the government's right-wing Likud Bloc, as calling the clash "an act of treachery."

Speaking on the air, Mr. Levy called Lebanon "a country gripped by madness, where bloodletting is a daily occurrence." "And if its army will also enter this cycle of madness, then it will be ruining itself with its own hands. I only want to hope that such an incident will not happen again," he added.

Mr. Levy had gone to the village of Julis in northern Israel to attend the funeral of Sgt. Nebouani Amad, a 20-year-old paratrooper who was killed during the clash near the front line of the Israeli occupation force in Lebanon.

Amad, a member of the mystical Druze sect, was the 620th Israeli killed in Lebanon since the June 6, 1982 invasion. Israeli media said he was the 36th Druze to die in the war.

Thursday's clash near the village of Kawthariet As Sayad was the third in nine days between the Lebanese and Israeli armies.

Israeli officials blamed the latest confrontation on what they claimed was Lebanon's refusal to coordinate with the Israeli pullback in South Lebanon. Negotiations between Lebanese and Israeli officials for a coordinated withdrawal broke down in mid-January.

A Lebanese army communiqué said Thursday's clash started when Israeli troops advanced beyond their front line under a screen of tank cannon fire.

Uri Lubrani, the Defence Min-

istry's liaison officer for Lebanon, was quoted by Israeli Radio as saying Israel expected more clashes with the Lebanese army "because they are not cooperating in a transfer of authority."

An official source who spoke on condition he was not identified blamed the clash between Israeli and Lebanese soldiers on recent statements by Lebanese leaders.

"If (President Amin) Gemayel and (Prime Minister Rashid) Karami go as far as saying kill as many Israelis as you can, maybe it is also having an effect on the local level," the source said.

Mr. Gemayel and Mr. Karami had praised what they called a resistance movement fighting against the Israeli occupation.

Israel completed the first phase of a scheduled three-part withdrawal on Feb. 16. Preparations for the second stage are underway, but no target date has been announced.

Meanwhile the Israeli army Friday denied allegations by a South Lebanese doctor that it had used an unconscious man from a hospital operating room and raided a local school.

In an unusual move, the military spokesman's office issued a "lengthy communiqué" saying "it was appalled by malicious and ludicrous allegations" by Dr. Ahmad Moue, director of Jebel Amel Hospital in the port of Tyre.

In an interview with Reuters issued on March 1, the doctor charged Israeli troops took 15 patients from hospital beds on one occasion, removed a wounded man from the operating room and raided a vocational school outside Tyre.

The army communiqué said the hospital granted refuge to commandos wanted while attacking Israeli units or handling explosives. "In two such recent cases, terrorists were removed from the hospital but not before medical aid was completed and an Israeli army doctor examined them," it said.

Israel takes further steps to destroy West Bank infrastructure

AMMAN (Petra) — Israel has reportedly taken further steps towards destroying the agricultural infrastructure of the occupied West Bank.

Reports reaching here said that bulldozers owned by the Israeli electricity company have begun leveling tens of dunums of land west of the town of Beit Jala prior to establishing electricity projects for the benefit of new Israeli settlements.

"Trees, vegetables and fences on these lands are being removed in the process, and the lands are being made ready for the Zionist project," reports said.

They said that the owners of

these lands, that lies about eight kilometres south west of Jerusalem, have not been informed of Israel's measures.

The Israeli authorities have been obstructing measures by the local Arab electricity company in the region to import equipment required for expanding its operations and instead have granted an Israeli company mandate to extend its operations in Arab regions.

The chairman of the board of directors of the Arab Jerusalem District Electricity Company, Mr. Anwar Nuseibeh has protested to the Israeli authorities against these measures.

Isolated Sudanese Red Sea tribesmen to get aid

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — International relief agencies are stepping up efforts to reach 150,000 members of an isolated nomadic tribe facing possible starvation in the Red Sea hills of north-east Sudan.

The Beja, an African warrior tribe known for its independence, is suffering acute drought in its traditional grazing grounds and hundreds may be dying, relief officials say.

Samir Basta, Khartoum representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) told Reuters, "the Red Sea hills area is worse than the situation in other parts of Sudan. There are closely packed mountains without roads. We can't even get four-wheel drive vehicles in."

A limited national survey carried out by UNICEF recently showed that up to 50 per cent of Beja children studied were severely malnourished, he said. The Beja are among more than five million Sudanese affected by drought, most of them in western Sudan. Sudan also hosts a refugee population of more than one million drought victims.

The American Evangelist Jerry Falwell, leader of the right-wing Moral Majority Organisation, announced at a press conference in Khartoum that he was organising a 10-year programme to help the Beja, which would begin in mid-May.

Falwell's visit to Sudan coincided with that of U.S. Vice President George Bush and they discussed the Beja project. Mr. Bush has toured drought-hit areas in eastern and western Sudan. Mr. Falwell said the programme would aim at providing emergency relief, long-term rehabilitation and schooling to teach the Beja to read and write in their own language.

Andrew Timson of Save the Children, one of six relief groups working with the Beja, said the first major shipment of food to reach them, 12,000 tons from the United Nations World Food Programme, will be distributed to five camps in the region, starting this week.

He said one or two children die every day at Derudeb, the largest of the camps, 240 kilometres west of Port Sudan. "There is an alarming age gap missing. The three to five year olds are missing in many families," he said. The camps hold a total of 35,000-40,000 people.

Meanwhile in Washington Democratic leader Robert I. Byrd Jr. on Thursday caught the Republican-led Senate by surprise and blocked — at least temporarily — approval of legislation providing \$685 million in emergency famine relief for Africa.

Palestinian commando chief condemns Falasha airlift

ADDIS ABABA (R) — A Palestinian leader has condemned what he called "Sudanese collusion with Israel" in airlifting some 12,000 Ethiopian Jews from their homes.

Nayef Hawatmeh, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), said Thursday on arrival for a week's visit that Sudan's "collusion" with Israel to remove the Falasha black Jews was "most despicable."

He said the DFLP supported Ethiopia's recent demand for the

return of the Falashas, taken to Israel via Sudan and Europe in an airlift dubbed "Operation Moses", which stopped in January.

Ethiopia had demanded the return of its nationals from Israel and urged the international community to apply pressure. Mr. Hawatmeh was invited to Ethiopia by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia (WPE). He is expected to hold talks with Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam.

U.N. troops come under fire in S. Lebanon

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — Irish peacekeeping troops of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) came under mortar and gun fire from Israeli-backed militiamen after the militia fighters were attacked overnight, UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said Friday.

Goksel said there were no Irish casualties from the incident that occurred at 9.30 p.m. (1930 GMT) Thursday in the village of Yater, 15 kilometres south east of this port city in South Lebanon.

Two positions of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia at the Yater road junction were attacked with small arms from two directions, presumably by anti-Israeli resistance forces, and the SLA positions fired back with small mortars and machine guns in all directions, Goksel said.

He said much of the fire from militiamen trained and paid by Israel hit Irish positions of the nine-nation UNIFIL, a 5,600-strong peacekeeping force that has been patrolling South Lebanon since 1978.

Another SLA position near the South Lebanese market town of Nabatiyah also was attacked with two rocket-propelled grenades and rifle fire Thursday night, but there were no casualty reports, U.N. sources said. They requested anonymity.

The sources said an Israeli army position was attacked Friday morning near the village of Deir Qanoun Al Nahr, 12 kilometres north east of Tyre. But the sources said they had no details.

In Maarak, the main stronghold of anti-Israeli resistance forces east of Tyre, Israeli troops

banned car traffic into and out of the village where a bomb destroyed a Shi'ite Muslim Mosque on Monday, killing 12 people and injuring 34, residents said.

Women, who walked from Maarak to the nearest village to fetch eabs, said Israeli troops told Maarak residents Thursday that the ban will remain in effect for three days and gave no explanation for the measure.

Beirut-based radio stations, meanwhile, said Israeli warplanes cracked the sound barrier in two mid-morning passes over the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon on Friday, drawing anti-aircraft fire.

Shops, cafes, and various businesses again closed at midday in mostly Muslim west Beirut on Friday, heeding a call from pro-Israeli Shi'ite extremists.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

Morning Programmes

06:00 — Children's Programme

06:30 — English Teaching

06:50 — First Aid

07:10 — Cartoon

07:30 — Children's Programmes

08:00 — Animals Animals

08:25 — Censored Cinema

08:50 — Local Programme

09:20 — Programme Review

09:30 — News Programme

09:40 — News in Arabic

09:50 — Arabic Series

10:15 — Programme Review

10:30 — Arabic Film

10:50 — News in Arabic

11:10 — Film Cond.

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30 — German Programme

18:00 — Des chiffres et des lettres

18:30 — Les Jeux des Femmes

19:00 — News in French

19:15 — L'appartement

19:30 — News in Hebrew

19:40 — Orson Welles

20:10 — Perspective

20:30 — Saturday Variety Show

21:00 — News in English

22:15 Feature film: Zepplin

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM

& partly on 9550 KHz, SW

07:00 — Light Music

07:30 — News Summary

08:00 — Morning Show

08:30 — News Summary

09:00 — Pop Session

09:30 — News Summary

10:00 — Pop Session cont.

10:30 — News Summary

11:00 — Pop Session cont.

11:30 — News Bulletin

12:00 — Jordan Weekly

12:30 — Music

13:00 — Concert Hour

13:30 — News Summary

14:00 — News Summary

14:30 — News Summary

15:00 — The 15th Century A.D.

15:30 — The Young Sunday

16:00 — News Summary

16:30 — 25 Years of Rock

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Indian Book Exhibition at Yarmouk University.

* Jordan's photos at University of Jordan Library.

* Chinese book exhibition at University of Jordan Library.

MUSICAL

"* Oliver!" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 6610267

American Centre, 44371

American Centre Library, 41530

British Council, 36147-R

French Cultural Centre, 37009

Goethe Institute, 41993

Soviet Cultural Centre, 44203

Spanish Cultural Centre, 24049

Turkish Cultural Centre, 39777

Haya Arts Centre, 665181

Hussein Youth City, 667181

Y.W.C.A., 41793

Y.W.M.C.A., 664251

Amman Municipal Library, 36111

University of Jordan Library, 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 6th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chapel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalists. Artists: Muntashir, Jabal Lubdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 53250, 53707, 53632, 53771, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:30 — Agaba (RJ)

09:30 — Dubai, Karachi (RJ)

09:45 — Cairo (RJ)

09:45 — Kuwait (RJ)

09:55 — Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

09:55 — Doha (RJ)

10:20 — Cairo (MS)

10:20 — Beirut (RJ)

10:45 — Riyadh (RJ)

10:45 — Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

10:50 — Larissa, Damascus (RJ)

10:50 — Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)

14:40 — Kuwait (KU)

16:00 — Baghdad (IA)

17:25 — Athens (RJ)

17:50 — Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)

18:30 — Paris, Damascus (AF)

18:30 — Cairo (RJ)

19:45 — Tripoli (RJ)

20:40 — Rome, Damascus (AZ)

20:50 — Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)

06:10 — Cairo (RJ)

06:10 — Baghdad (RJ)

06:30 — Bucharest, Larissa (RO)

06:45 — Cairo (RJ)

06:50 — Damascus, Frankfurt (LH

Seminar tackles aspects of studying abroad

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in Amman Thursday organised a seminar which discussed "The Problems facing Jordanian Students Studying Abroad", during which participants discussed both the negative and positive aspects of studying abroad, as well as suggesting recommendations to be presented to the concerned officials were discussed.

The panelists who discussed the problems of Jordanian youth abroad were Mr. Akram Masarweh, assistant director of the Jordan Youth Organisation, Mrs. Nimreh Tannous, a consultant from the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs and Mr. Issam Al Zawawi, director of the International Association for Arab Students Affairs.

Mr. Masarweh said that until now, the government has no defined numbers and information about Jordanian youth studying abroad, which has acted negatively on those concerned with discussing the problems facing these students. However, he added, there are two official estimations which say that the number of Jordanian students abroad are 60,000 and 25,000 which he said is a "contradicting estimation". However, he added, these students are scattered in 40 different countries of the world.

Mr. Masarweh discussed the social and cultural aspects that play a major role in sending students to study abroad. He said that the family, as well as the educational institutions, fail to guide these students. Parents think that education is a means to reach a high status in any organisation and not a way to promote these students to work and earn their living, he said.

He added that the Jordanian society has failed in conditioning the students to establish healthy relationships with the opposite sex as the subject of sexual education is a taboo in our society. Therefore, when these students leave their country they try to make up for what they were previously not allowed to do. This, he added, as well as not preparing the students to be responsible for themselves and the little knowledge Jordanian students have about the educational system abroad, all create these conflicts that face the students.

Mr. Masarweh stressed the fact that only those students who are prepared in areas of knowledge, culture, social and patriotism are those students who can study abroad and at the same time "produce good quality work and education".

Mrs. Nimreh Tannous said that the problems facing Jordanian

students abroad start in their homeland. She said: "One has to examine the reasons and causes that have encouraged students to pursue their higher education abroad." She added that a large number of families who have sent their children abroad have no idea about what studying abroad entails, what the expenses are and that parents do not even orient their children before they go to study abroad.

Culture shock

She said that all these factors will prevent the students from coping with the "cultural shock" which some students experience once they get to the country where they have chosen to study. As a solution to this problem, Mrs. Tannous suggested that the solution lies in encouraging students to pursue their Bachelors programme at local universities, after which, those who wish to continue their higher education can go and study abroad.

Mr. Zawawi said that studying abroad has a lot of advantage, especially since a lot of scientific majors are not offered in the Arab World and that going to study abroad helps "to shape the students personality". He outlined the problems facing students abroad as: The Language barrier, lack of parental guidance before the student leaves his homeland, the housing of students abroad, the feeling of being homesick, and new laws and regulations followed in the country the student is in. "A major problem facing students abroad is trying to imitate the Western mode of life, such as taking drugs, or building unhealthy relations with the opposite sex, especially since the sexual freedom abroad contradicts the orientation the student has had in his homeland," Mr. Zawawi said.

Mrs. Tannous added that a lot of students are discouraged from returning to their country because they are turned down by the wide unemployment in Jordan and because they may have to be conscripted into the army for their national service.

A student from a local school who was attending the seminar said: "The whole educational system and the decision-makers at the Ministry of Education need to be reshuffled especially since the text books and materials just cram information that leads the students nowhere. The student added that students are evaluated according to the results they get during the tawjil examination which he said is "an unfair system".

The seminar presented several recommendations to be taken into consideration by the decision-makers as well as the institutions directly concerned with the welfare of the students.



OPENING AN EXCHANGE: Minister of Communications Mohammed Addoub Al Zaben (centre) Thursday opens a new electronic telephone exchange for Al Hussa and Sarh districts in Irbid Governorate. Dr. Zaben said in a speech on the occasion that the new exchange was part of his ministry's overall plan to extend telephone communications in rural and urban regions in the Kingdom under a Jordanian-French protocol. The Irbid Governorate's telephone schemes included in the protocol, he said, are estimated to cost JD 3.015 million. The new exchange cost JD 400,000, the minister added. (Petra photo)

Ministerial committee reviews Shidieh project, phosphate transport facilities

AMMAN (Petra) — Four ministers met in Amman Thursday to discuss the Shidieh phosphates project in southern Jordan and other related schemes.

The four ministers, forming a special ministerial committee entrusted with supervising projects for Amman and other parts in southern Jordan, met under the chairmanship of Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al-Anani. They made an estimation of the requirements for the project in terms of transporting the phosphates to Amman for export and laying a new

railway that could help speed up the process.

Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour also discussed an alternative highway to transport the product to Amman, Dr. Anani said.

He said the committee members visited the Shidieh mines near Ma'an and made a study on ways for coordinating other services for the project. The committee later made a field tour of areas in southern Amman and the port to inspect areas where roads and wharves should be built to help export the phosphates.

The committee members also visited the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, now under construction on the southern coast of Amman, and were briefed on the stages completed and the progress of work. They were also briefed on a study for using coal to produce energy for the thermal power station. Several local officials and directors of departments affiliated to the ministries involved in these projects took part in the meetings.

Fourth medical conference concludes

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The fourth Jordanian medical conference concluded Friday after tackling most aspects of body ailments, diseases and malfunctions through lectures and the presentation of research papers by leading doctors from Jordan, Arab and foreign countries. The participants conducted seminars and delivered lectures which threw light on the medical state of art in the fields of heart surgery, liver and gynaecological disorders, diabetes, bilharzia, infant diseases and cancer.

During the three day conference, which opened Wednesday under royal patronage at the Palace of Culture, 80 scientific and medical research papers were delivered by 32 renowned doctors from the United States, England, the Soviet Union, France, Austria, the Arab World and Jordanian expatriates.

The conference lectures which were entitled "Recent Advances in Medicine and Surgery" were delivered on Thursday and Friday at the Engineering Faculty auditorium at the University of Jordan.

Friday's scientific day dealt with lectures and seminars on diarrhoea, hepatitis, aeromonas infections of childhood and deficiency in male newborns, the current status of measles and acute gastroenteritis, cancer patient management including current concepts in the medical management of breast cancer and also surgical and radiation therapy, options of potentially curable breast cancer, the curative treatment of lung cancer and the surgery of dysphagia.

The lectures also tackled the non-surgical treatment of acromegaly, an update on treatment of pituitary tumours, disorders of sexual differentiation, management of compound fractures and bone loss and studies of fungal diseases in the West Bank.

During Thursday's heavy schedule, various seminars on subjects such as "Combined Medical and Surgical Gastroenterology" and "Obstetrics and Gynaecological Disorders" were presented by doctors and professors who participated in this conference.

Cirrhosis

"Cirrhosis: A New Hope for an Old Problem" was the study presented by Dr. T.W. Warness from the United Kingdom. In his study Dr. Warness explained the symptoms and the treatment of cirrhosis, which is the chronic and fatal form of liver disease caused by Hepatitis B (HB).

In Jordan, however, there are three main kinds of liver disorder Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B and non A non B.

This virus can be transferred through different means such as blood transfusions, saliva secretion, sexual intercourse, parental transmission from mother to new born infants and even through close contact with HB carriers.

"As a hope for those patients who suffer from cirrhosis, a new vaccine has been produced from

homosexual people carrying HB," Dr. Warness told the Jordan Times.

"Despite the fact that this vaccine is very effective and can cure people suffering from HB, which causes cirrhosis and liver cancer, yet it is inactivated for three main reasons," he added.

First of all, Dr. Warness explained, most people are frightened to take this vaccine which is produced from homosexual people because, in their opinion, they are scared that it may cause them AIDS (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome) which is a very common disease amongst homosexual people.

The second reason, he continued, is the expense of this vaccine, which is around £60 for three injections and therefore it is not produced on a large scale.

The third reason, Dr. Warness added, is the discovery of new artificially produced vaccines. One of the newly discovered vaccines is a chemical structure of HB and the other is produced from Dioxynucleic Acid (DNA) yeasts which Dr. Warness suggests will be a cheap vaccine to be massively produced after going through the proper tests within the coming few years.

Dr. Warness also stressed the need to vaccinate high risk groups which include people who have had sexual contacts with HB carriers, all household contacts with people carrying HB, new born babies from mothers carrying HB immediately after birth, doctors and laboratory technicians working in hospitals and people on dialysis machines, as well as people working on these machines.

During his lecture Dr. Warness explained "Wilson's Disease and Indian Childhood Cirrhosis". Wilson's Disease, he said, is an inherited disorder which causes an increase of copper storage in the liver that consequently causes cirrhosis or an increase of copper in the brain, which can lead to nerve damage of the brain. This disease can be treated by the use of penicillamine which helps in getting rid of the copper from both the liver and the brain through the urine, Dr. Warness added.

According to a study conducted in Britain, 53 per cent of patients carrying Wilson's disease have died within three years.

Cirrhosis, or diseases related to cirrhosis, should be treated in the early stages, otherwise they are fatal diseases, Dr. Warness said. In many cases, he added, cirrhosis is worse than many types of cancer and therefore patients whose ages are under 55 require liver transplantation, he concluded.

'Mediterranean fever'

Dr. M. Barakat from Kuwait presented a study entitled "Recent progress in Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF)". FMF is a Mediterranean chronic disease that affects mainly Arabs, oriental Jews, Armenians and Turks," Dr. Barakat, head of the gastroenterology department at the Kuwaiti Medical School said in an interview with the Jordan Times. This disease, he explained, has the symptoms of acute pain in the abdomen, chest or inflammation of joints.

"FMF is caused by a genetic disorder of metabolism and there is no laboratory diagnostic test for this disease," Dr. Barakat said. As a result, he added, people suffering from this disease may be suspected of having an inflamed appendix, a gall bladder disease or acute rheumatism and many were operated on unnecessarily. After 1972, a new drug was discovered called colchicine which is helping people suffering from FMF, Dr. Barakat added.

"Since the problem was to diagnose the disease, we at the Kuwait Medical School introduced a new test which is very helpful and promising and we reported this test last year," Dr. Barakat said. "We use a certain drug to inject the patient and if the patient develops a mild disease attack within 24 hours, then it is proved that this patient is suffering from Mediterranean fever," he added.

Dr. Barakat concluded that FMF is not fatal in its early stages, but that it may develop into a kidney disease and the patient might then die of that.

Dyspepsia

"Effects of H2 Receptor Blocker (cimetidine) Therapy in Non-Ulcer Dyspepsia" was a study prepared by Dr. Ziad Sharaia and Dr. Alaaddin Touqan from Jordan. "Dyspepsia is a common disease in the world, part of it could be due to a peptic ulcer," Dr. Ziad Sharaia, a gastroenterologist, explained to the Jordan Times. "Most often, he added, when endoscopy is done to the patient, no pathology is noted in the oesophagus stomach."

"Dyspepsia has many different symptoms such as epigastric, upper abdominal pain, discomfort, acid regurgitation, flatulence, fullness, nausea, and vomiting," Dr. Sharaia explained.

He went on to say that the medical treatment so far has been to treat symptoms; some use antacids to decrease acidity, some use drug to lower oesophageal sphincter tone or accelerate gastric emptying.

The main aim of our study, Dr. Sharaia said, is to compare the safety and efficiency of the drug called tagamet versus a placebo (which is a 'dummy' tablet that contains glucose but no drugs) in the symptomatic treatment of non-ulcer dyspepsia.

"Although this study was inconclusive, we have shown that in a sub group of patients, tagamet works in heartburn and in patients who usually respond to antacid therapy, while patients who smoke twenty cigarettes or more showed no response to this therapy at all," Dr. Sharaia concluded.

Jordan marks International Women's Day

Students argue whether the role, status of Jordanian women can be improved

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — On the occasion of International Women's Day Friday, the Jordan Times conducted a series of interviews with young Jordanian women on their perception of women's emancipation, the status of women in Jordan, women's role in society, the problems they face and alternatives they suggest to improve their conditions.

Abeer Al Homsi, a 24-year-old public administration student, does not believe in the emancipation of women as a separate concept from the liberation of the human being. "I personally do not believe in anything called women's emancipation," Abeer told the Jordan Times on her way out of the main gate of the University of Jordan. "I believe in the emancipation of human beings in general because a man is even more oppressed than a woman since he is the one who has to go out and confront the injustices in the society," she explained.

In Abeer's view, the struggle for women's rights cannot be understood except within the concept of the struggle to attain the rights of all individuals since social injustice befalls both women and men, "but it is men who are more deprived of their rights than women," she said.

Abeer, who has been married for four years, says that she has no career ambitions of her own and that she does not think of working outside the house when she graduates this Spring. "I do not want to rebel," she said. But Abeer believes that being "a housewife" should not limit a woman's desire to increase her knowledge or limit her involvement in social and constructive activities. "Being a housewife does not mean ignorance and isolation," she said. "A woman can get involved in society without going out to work but through participating in voluntary activities and being active in a club," she added.

Abeer, who says that she has a keen interest in politics in general, believes that recently Arab individuals have lost interest or hope of being able to participate in making political decisions on the national level. "It has nothing to do with being a woman or a man, but many Arabs, including myself, are deeply frustrated and believe that we cannot do much to change the course of events around us," she said as she left the campus.

Fayal Hawarneh and Fidal Salaitah are both twenty year old junior students at the Faculty of Accounting. While both girls are going to become teachers since they have scholarships from the Ministry of Education, Fayal strongly believes that "a woman's place is at home besides her husband". She says that she is going to teach in public schools after graduation because it is part of the conditions of her scholarship but that once she gets married and has children she would no longer think of going out to work.

"A woman's main task is to support her husband and raise her children. It is impossible for a

woman to work outside the house and at the same time be efficient at both," she said. "There is always a trade off and I do not want to risk being a bad wife and mother by working outside the house," she added.

Fida voiced her disagreement saying "this is not true. If a woman is able to divide her time between her house and her work she will be able to do both." Fayal then argued that a working woman cannot but sacrifice her family life if she insists on working and pays too much attention on building career and the Egyptian soap opera "Tomorrow the Flowers Bloom" is a good example, she said. She explained that in this soap opera, which Jordan Television had recently run, a woman lost her husband because she was deeply immersed in her job. But Fida again disagreed saying that it was the husband's fault and the woman's job that caused the problems between the couple.

Taking decisions

I asked both girls if the woman should share in taking decisions with their husbands. "The couple has to discuss everything, but the last say should be from the husband or else people would think that the husband is controlled by his wife and I do not want this to be said about my husband", Fayal said. Fida's reply was different: "I think that both husband and wife should exchange views and reach decisions together," but Fayal answered that this does not happen in reality. "If you want me to tell you about ideals and fairness as far as women are concerned I can say a lot, but we all know that there is a big difference between ideals and reality," Fayal retorted.

"I am fully aware that it is not fair for women not to be able to have ambitions of their own and I have a good idea of the ideal status of women and the way it should be, but I do not believe I can do much to change our reality. The social pressures on women are so immense that I do not think I would be able to face them if I want to lead a quiet life. Therefore, I prefer to learn to accept our status particularly since I would not be able to change anything even if I tried," Fayal said.

This view on women's status in Jordan is not reflected in the ambitious and more confident vision of Noha and Naifa who are both working to attain their masters degrees in archaeology.

A second article on the views of working women in Jordan and their opinions on the status, conditions and problems of working women will be published in Sunday's edition of the Jordan Times.

Twenty-seven year old Naifa Al Ajrami says that women's emancipation could only be achieved through realising economic and intellectual independence because as a woman is "totally dependent on a man, be it a father, a brother or a husband she would not be able to take her decisions." Economic independence on its own, however, is not enough to make a woman aware of her rights and role in society, but a woman would not be able to develop her intellectual ability or her own perception of life if she is financially dependent.

Noha agrees with Naifa's definition of the emancipation of women but notes that "partly because of our upbringing, most women are not aware of their rights."

"It is sad but I think it is the reality," Noha continued, "take the university as an example. Most girls here have hardly any ambition of their own and they study either because it is good to be a university graduate or to use their certificate to financially support their family if there is a need."

Naifa agrees with her friend but observes that the fact that more Jordanian women are pursuing their college education and that they are becoming aware of their responsibility in sharing the financial burdens with their family and their husbands which she says is progress by itself.

But it is true that achievement by itself is still not a goal for most of our girls", Naifa said. "This can be explained by the fact that our society, even though it would recognise the achievements of successful women as individuals, but it does not put great importance on the need for a woman to achieve something outside her house and to realise herself," she added.

Both Naifa and Noha believe that a woman is as capable as any man and could bear large responsibilities. They note with pride that young women are doing exceptionally well in the archaeology department at the university. Naifa cites former Information Minister Laila Sharaf as an example of Jordanian women's capability to be part of the highest decision making bodies in the country.

"Yet the fact that we had a woman as an information minister was and still is recognised as a case of individual success while a woman's assumption of high ranking posts is still not perceived as part of our social norms," Naifa said.

Both Naifa and Noha agree that one of the main factors that limit women's ambitions is that "once a girl is married, she is the one who is expected to make concessions." Naifa and Noha believe that stereotypes of women roles will not be changed easily and that there is a need to raise the awareness of both men and women on women's role in society. But they view the increasing involvement of Jordanian women in the working field as a step in the right direction.

Basma stresses the need to develop special education for the handicapped

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Her Highness Princess Basma Thursday attended the closing session of a five day sub-regional seminar on "The Organisation and Management of Special Education in the Arab World" at the Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF).

In her address Princess Basma said that the subject of special education is a recent field which needs to be developed. Princess Basma, who is also the director of QAJWF's board of trustees, added that working with special education students, as well as offering them help, has only recently started in the Arab World. She went on to say that the exchange of expertise, ideas and scientific studies will result in giving better attention to the handicapped in our societies. Princess Basma said that the handicapped in turn could be freed from their disabilities

which would enable them to be more productive and creative individuals.

The participants, who represented both governmental and private sector institutions in the field of special education, came from Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Jordan and presented a number of recommendations to be sent to concerned officials.

These recommendations centred on supporting Arab special education centres by developing their programmes and expanding their services. Also, the recommendations suggested that the teaching of the handicapped should be the responsibility of the Ministry of Education in co-operation with the voluntary organisations and private specialised agencies.

The participants also called for adapting and developing specific programmes which aim at the incorporation of the disabled in schools, which is in line with the aims of international programmes of action for the disabled.

The participants urged that specialised agencies should develop programmes for disabled adults who did not have any previous education and also called for the expansion of vocational training programmes to include a larger number of handicapped persons.

The participants also called for comprehensive services for the disabled in rural and urban areas by developing suitable programmes and spreading awareness.

Dr. Ali Mahmoud Amr

Obstetrician and Gynaecologist
M.D. MRCOG (London) JMCB (Obst. & Gyn.)

announces the opening of his private clinic at Jabal Amman, adjacent to Al Khaldi hospital as of Saturday March 9, 1985.

Clinic hours: from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Telephone: Clinic 44007; residence 669220.

FOR RENT

Deluxe furnished apartment consisting of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room, central heating and telephone.

Location: Shmeisani
Contact Tel: 665274

Israelis close Birzeit

(Continued from page 1)

was summoned by military authorities Friday and told of the closure.

The university has been the scene of repeated anti-occupation demonstrations and last November troops shot dead a student during a demonstration.

Nasir condemns closure

In Amman, Dr. Hanna Nasir, president of Birzeit University, issued a statement strongly condemning the Israeli order to close the university describing it as "another oppressive act by the Israeli occupation authorities against the university."

"This is the 10th time that the university has been closed down since 1967, the last time being for one month in April 1984," Dr. Nasir said in his statement. "It is noteworthy that the old campus of Birzeit cannot hold even half of the student body of 2,400 students," the statement said.

"Therefore, the Israeli occupation authorities' decision to keep the old campus open seems to be designed to reduce international pressure against the occupation authorities measures against Palestinian universities."

Paris welcomes Egyptian plan

(Continued from page 1)

crossroads of Middle East diplomatic activity. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir both visited Paris last month. Cairo newspapers reported Saturday that Mr. Mubarak intended to tell the United States that it should soften its position in dealing with the PLO and press Israel, which refuses to meet with the organisation, into negotiations.

Arab peace overtures "require in return an active and fair move by the Americans to put pressure on Israel and draw it into the peace process," the daily Al Ahsam commented. The daily Al Goshouria said a favourable U.S. response would serve to strengthen moderates within the PLO.

enough moderates within the PLO.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Maguid Thursday briefed two PLO officials — Sa'ad Kamel, a member of the Palestine National Council, and Zohdi Kodra, PLO representative in Cairo — on the outcome of Wednesday's talks between King Hussein and Mr. Mubarak.

Mr. Kamel told reporters he had telephoned Mr. Arafat in Tunis with clarifications on Mr. Mubarak's thoughts on the proposed negotiations.

He also said Mr. Abdul Maguid had reiterated the two leaders' reassurances that the PLO was the only authority qualified to name Palestinian representatives to any future peace talks.



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's
Al Ra'i: Irresponsible escalation

IRANIAN SHELLING of Iraqi civilian centres in Basra and Mandali reflect the Iranian regime's despair with the war and its consequences. Perhaps the regime in Tehran wants to make up for its huge losses in the battlefield by shelling civilian areas, killing innocent people. Instead of returning to their senses and understanding that the war cannot achieve anything for them, the Iranian leaders have become intent on pursuing their crimes, thus bringing to their own people more disasters and deaths.

We are pained to see civilian people on both sides of the front being used as a fuel for escalating hostilities and satisfying the desires of the Iranian rulers. It is a tragedy that should be stopped immediately.

Iraq, which was forced to retaliate and pay the Iranians in their own coin, have proved ready to respond favourably to all calls to end the war and settle the conflict peacefully. But the Iranian regime seems to be determined to thwart all attempts by international mediators to stop the bloodshed.

The new situation in the Gulf War cannot be brought to an end with mere condemnation of such criminal actions. World nations should join forces to stop the tragedy and exert real efforts to save civilians from perishing and their property from destruction.

Sawt Al Shaab: Golden opportunity for U.S.

THE UNITED STATES now possesses a new golden opportunity to help bring about peace in the Middle East in the light of the new Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. It can start by opening dialogue with Jordanians and Palestinians exactly as it did with the Vietnamese with whom it was at war for many years and with the Nicaraguan government which it regards as its enemy in the Western hemisphere.

We realise that the United States will find it hard to start the dialogue in view of the Zionist pressure, but as a superpower, it has great responsibility for helping to establish peace throughout the world. For this reason, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement offers the Americans a chance to seek a settlement that can guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people and end the Israeli aggression. Once the dialogue with the Jordanians and the Palestinians is successful, the way for peace negotiations with all parties in the region will be open.

Dialogue will be the first step towards involving the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the peace process, and this is very essential since this organisation is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Al Dustour: Resorting to terrorising civilians

HAVING FOUND itself incapable of continuing the war with Iraq in the battlefield, Iran has now resorted to shelling civilian centres in Iraq with the hope of making some gains from this futile war, but in total disregard of human life and in violation of all moral principles and international laws.

Iran's shelling of Basra and other Iraqi civilian areas over the past two days is a barbaric act reflecting its military bankruptcy and total failure in confronting the Iraqis in the battlefield. By launching a war against the civilian population in the border region, Iran is thus endangering the lives of its own people because Iraq is sure to resort to the same type of war to bring the Iranian regime to its senses.

The Iranian attacks do not only violate the Geneva Convention but also an agreement concluded last June under U.N. auspices under which both parties to the war would desist from shelling civilian centres. The Iranians seem to be intent on pursuing a losing battle and causing further bloodshed on both sides, and the international community is now called on to take necessary measures to stop these insane actions.

Thursday's
Al Ra'i: Joint effort for peace

THE JORDANIAN-Egyptian summit talks in Hurgada have underlined the following facts: (First, that both countries are keen on pursuing consultations aimed at building a unified Arab stand; Second, that both are adhering to joint steps to reactivate the Arab offensive;

Third, that the two sides consider the Jordanian-Palestinian accord as the basis for this offensive; Fourth, sending a clear message to the U.S. administration that Washington has now to take the next step, and that the agreement is a golden chance that should not be lost.

We believe that the U.S. administration will commit a grave mistake if it continues to allow itself to succumb to Zionist pressure and so lose another golden chance for establishing a lasting peace. The new agreement is a clear sign for the whole world that the Arabs are ready to make peace and a message to the Arab countries that more efforts should be exerted now to achieve that peace.

It was natural for the two leaders to meet and coordinate their stands and to work out a strategy with which to maintain the struggle for achieving peace. But this peace cannot be attained without due support from the rest of the Arab countries and without American cooperation.

Al Dustour: Mubarak conveys mutual stand

AT THE joint press conference by King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak three points were emphasised, and these represent the Jordanian stand vis-a-vis efforts designed to establish peace in the Middle East.

The King made it clear that the Jordanian-Palestinian accord signed on Feb. 11 was a last serious attempt to bring peace to the region. He also said that the next step should now come from the United States, which had always bragged about its desire to contribute to the establishment of peace. The third point which was emphasised by the King was a reiteration that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) remains the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and, therefore, it should be involved in all negotiations for the establishment of peace.

The Hurgada summit, which came on the eve of President Mubarak's visit to the United States, represents a common Egyptian-Jordanian stand that will be presented to the United States, which must now shoulder its responsibility as a superpower towards world peace and security.

U.S.-Israel 'free trade area' first of its kind

WASHINGTON - The following fact sheet on the U.S.-Israel free trade area agreement was released by the U.S. State Department March 5:

ON NOVEMBER 29, 1983, U.S. President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Shamir agreed to proceed with bilateral negotiations on a U.S.-Israel free trade area (FTA), which the Israeli government had originally proposed in 1981. Negotiations began in mid-January 1984 and concluded in February 1985. This agreement will eliminate restrictions on substantially all trade between the United States and Israel, which in 1984 represented \$1,900 million in U.S. exports and \$1,700 million in U.S. imports.

The United States has never concluded an agreement of this kind. We have had experience in undertaking more limited free trade area arrangements, such as the one-way duty-free trade established by the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBI) and the sectoral free trade agree-

ement with Canada in the automotive sector. But we have never before attempted an agreement which fully meets the definition of a free trade area.

The FTA and the GATT:

A free trade area is a bilateral arrangement between two countries in which each country removes trade barriers with respect to the other. Under Article XXIV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) two signatories to that agreement may create a free trade area provided that there is an elimination of duties and other restrictive regulations of commerce on substantially all the trade between the two countries undertaking the arrangement and that this is accomplished in a reasonable length of time. We believe the U.S.-

Israel FTA meets these GATT requirements.

Tariff reductions

The U.S.-Israel Free Trade Area Agreement (FTA) comprises a preamble and 23 separate articles, as well as four Annexes, which are integral parts of the agreement. Annexes One and Two provide the respective schedules of tariff reductions. There will be no permanent product exclusions from the agreement. However, there will be some differentiation in the treatment of products depending on their sensitivity and tariff level. For purposes of duty elimination, there will be four categories of products, which will be identical for both parties:

— products on which duties will be eliminated immediately upon entry into force of the agreement; — products on which duties will be eliminated in several stages by Jan. 1, 1989; — products on which duties will

be eliminated in eight stages over a 10-year period; and — products on which duties will receive no reduction for a five-year period. On the U.S. side, after five years we will request additional advice from the U.S. International Trade Commission on these products and will then negotiate the elimination of duties on these products based upon that advice.

Non-tariff provisions

The FTA creates consultation mechanisms, sets out rules of origin (modelled on the CBI rules of origin with slight modifications), encourages cooperation in trade in services, and reaffirms bilateral and multilateral trade commitments. The FTA contains a strong commitment from the government of Israel that it will eliminate export subsidies. In addition, both parties will limit the use of trade-related balance of payments actions and restrictive lic-

ensing. The agreement also includes provisions on intellectual property rights, trade-related performance requirements, and dispute settlement. Both Israel and the United States, parties to the GATT Government Procurement Code, have agreed to additional restrictions on the application of "buy national" regulations. Both nations may maintain limited import restrictions based on agricultural policy considerations, and Israel retains a right to impose, on the principle of national treatment, import restrictions for the purpose of its religious dietary laws.

The agreement ensures that U.S. trade remedy legislation (i.e., countervailing duty, antidumping, etc.) is not contravened. There are stricter limits than required by the GATT on the use of protective measures to benefit infant industries. More precise and modern standards are included which modify the right of both parties to increase their specific duties to

keep pace with changes in the value of their currency. Both parties have agreed that no new tariff or non-tariff measures may be applied bilaterally except as permitted by the terms of the FTA or by the GATT.

Status of the FTA

The text of the agreement, together with implementing legislation, have been submitted to have the appropriate congressional committees for their informal review. After the review has been completed, which we anticipate will be early April, the agreement will be signed and officially transmitted to the Congress. Within 60 days the Congress will vote for or against approval (i.e., no amendments). The date of the FTA's entry into force will be determined by the length of time needed by both governments to complete the necessary administrative procedures — USIA.

Geneva talks burdened by past, no early compromise seen

By Sidney Weiland
Reuters

LONDON — U.S.-Soviet arms talks reopen next week, burdened by the baggage of past failure and positions staked out that offer no prospects for quick results.

The 15 months since negotiations broke down have seen political shifts on both sides that could move relations onto a sounder basis. But a new element — space weaponry — will make a compromise harder than ever to achieve.

While space is only one of three weapons categories on the agenda, it looks like becoming the crunch issue in the interlocking round of talks starting in Geneva next Tuesday.

Positions so far seem irreconcilable. President Reagan refuses to negotiate on the research phase of America's space-based defence programme. Moscow says nuclear missile cuts are unthinkable without a matching deal on space weapons.

Mr. Reagan has said his second four-year term ending in 1989 may not be long enough for a

complete arms settlement. U.S. allies in Europe, whose cities are targeted by Soviet SS-20 missiles, believe an agreement on European-based weapons will be held up by Moscow until an accord on space is struck.

NATO officials say all the ingredients are there for an inter-aliased clash over priorities, and for renewed Soviet attempts to split the West by exploiting European anxieties.

The Europeans originally pushed Mr. Reagan into negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear weapons in 1981. Parallel U.S.-Soviet discussions on intercontinental missiles began in 1982.

Both sets of talks halted in late 1983, with Moscow arguing they had become pointless because of the siting of U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

In the new three-tier talks, discussions on medium- and long-range missiles can be picked up more or less where they were interrupted. Both sides are expected to table new proposals on figures after they have outlined broad

positions. But Moscow has said repeatedly that it is interested mainly in preventing an arms race in space and that it is likely to hold other issues hostage until a space accord is negotiated.

Senior U.S. officials say they are prepared to confront this tactic but admit they are powerless to thwart it. Military space technology is the one field where the Kremlin lags behind, they contend.

Washington wants separate accords in each of the weapons areas, to be concluded as soon as possible, even if other "inter-related" issues are still being negotiated.

"Let's implement as much as the Soviet Union is prepared to implement," Mr. Reagan's arms adviser Paul Nitze said this week.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko has proposed an "accord, simultaneous and inter-related in all the three areas."

The Soviet aim is to blunt Mr. Reagan's costly and controversial so-called Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) before the Americans develop a capability to des-

tro Soviet nuclear missiles with lasers and other "Star Wars" devices shortly after they are launched.

Mr. Reagan has said the United States will negotiate on SDI only when it is sure such a system is feasible. The administration has sought to overcome doubts among major allies by offering them a share in the multi-billion-dollar research.

Moscow has accused Washington of a "lighthearted" approach and has already identified Star Wars and continued U.S. missile deployments in Europe as potential causes should negotiations collapse for a second time or just bog down.

Mr. Reagan says the talks are the "most important set of arms discussions this nation will likely conduct in this decade."

The U.S. administration has projected SDI as an eventual means of such impenetrable defence that nuclear arms would become "impotent and obsolete". Mr. Reagan has even offered to share the know-how with Moscow if this would help end the nuclear threat.

Washington insists that, despite the virulence of Soviet attacks on SDI, Moscow is also building a space defence system.

Western experts see support for this view in a sudden Soviet silence on anti-satellite (ASAT) systems. For two years, Moscow pressed for a mutual ASAT freeze. Experts think the switch is because enhanced Soviet capabilities are about to be tested.

While SDI aims at stopping ballistic missiles before they reach their targets, ASAT weapons are intended to knock out orbiting satellites used for surveillance and communications.

The icy chill that descended over U.S.-Soviet relations after Mr. Reagan became president began lifting when he toned down his anti-Communist rhetoric last year and when Moscow accepted he was likely to be reelected for a second term.

Moscow made an abortive effort to force negotiations on space last year. This was followed by a Reagan-Gromyko meeting in September and in January a Soviet decision to reverse tracks and return to the arms negotiations.

Western experts say the superpowers are probably closest to agreement on strategic weapons, an area where trade-offs have

been suggested between U.S. heavy bombers and Soviet missiles.

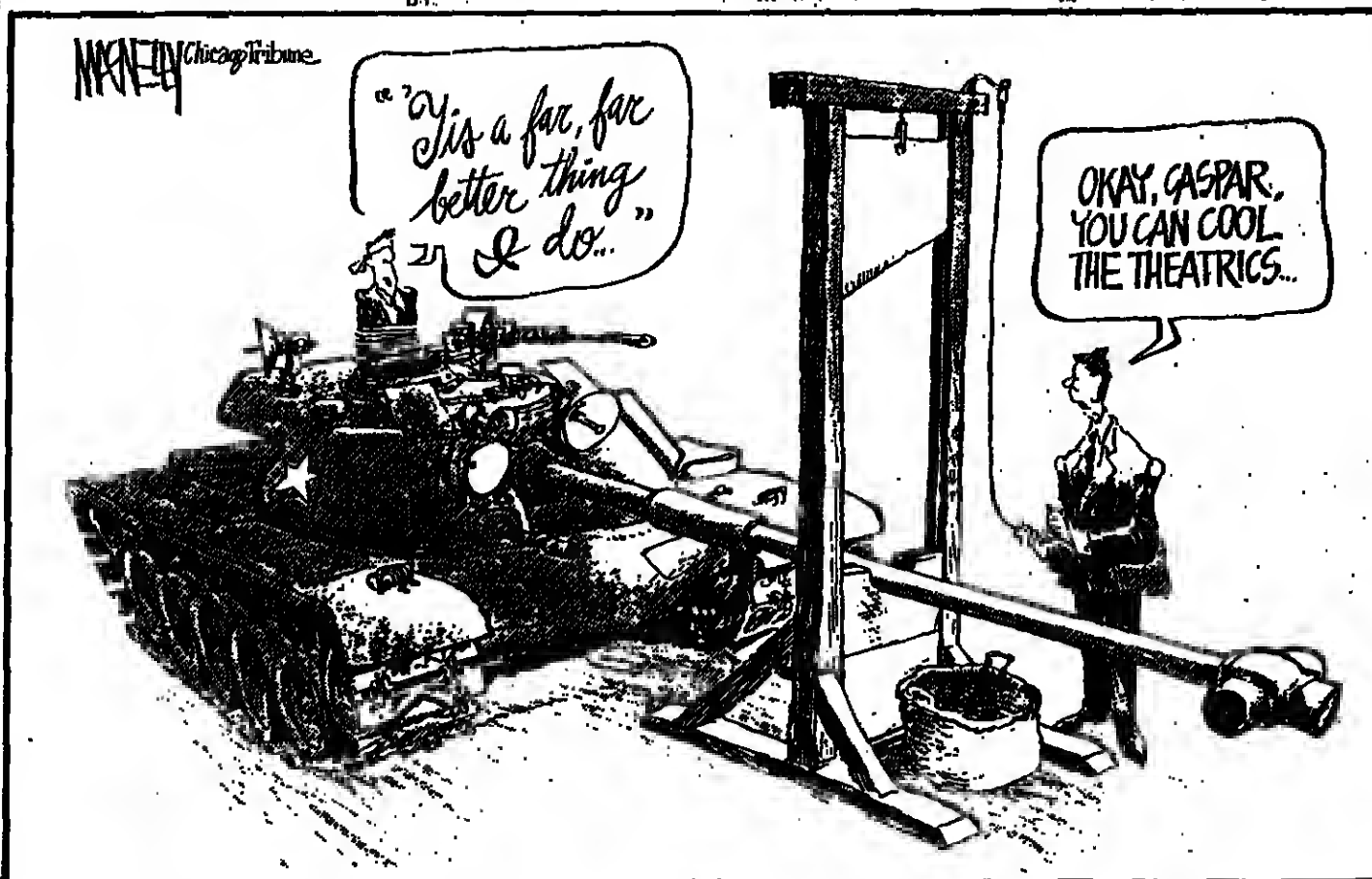
Agreement on medium-range missiles is likely to prove as elusive as in two years of the earlier talks. The West says Moscow has about 400 triple-warhead SS-20s, two-thirds in Europe, against 112 comparable European-based U.S. missiles.

Mr. Gromyko has made clear he will demand compensation for British and French nuclear systems. The West has kept these outside the talks, a major sticking point last time.

Moscow is also expected to demand a ban on all nuclear weapons tests, a freeze on nuclear stocks, and a mutual pledge that neither country will be the first to use nuclear arms.

Both sides are keeping their negotiating positions under wraps until U.S. and Soviet delegation leaders Max Kampelman and Viktor Karpov meet at a get-acquainted session on Tuesday.

Their first task will be to set a work schedule for regular group meetings on space, strategic and medium-range weapons, alternating between U.S. and Soviet offices, with full delegation meetings from time to time for coordination purposes.



Extreme-right Le Pen refuses to go away

By Francesca Gee
Reuters

PARIS — After ignoring him for months in the hope that he might quietly go away, France's political leaders are taking the offensive against extreme rightist leader Jean-Marie Le Pen.

With Mr. Le Pen's National Front expected to garner up to one tenth of the vote in cantonal elections on Sunday, leading figures in the mainstream opposition parties are hurrying to distance themselves from him.

The governing Socialist Party, which used to pay him little attention, has launched a political campaign to thwart the National Front's progress.

Jacques Chirac, leader of the RPR, the main opposition movement, has said his Gaullists will strike no electoral deals with Mr. Le Pen, thus contradicting statements by local party officials.

Mr. Le Pen, for many years a minor figure on the fringes of French politics made his breakthrough with a tough anti-immigrant, pro-law-and-order campaign in elections for the European Parliament last June.

His achievement in winning 11

per cent of the vote, the same as the long-established French Communist Party, has turned out to be more than a brief success.

Mr. Le Pen, a one-eyed former paratrooper aged 57, thrives on controversy and polemics. Last week he sued the leftwing daily Liberation for publishing statements from five Algerians who claimed they were tortured by Mr. Le Pen during the battle of Algiers in 1957.

In an interview with Reuters, he said he was sure to win the libel suit and planned to turn the case into "the trial of terrorism and its allies."

He insisted that he was not against foreigners as individuals, only against government immigration policies: "We claim the right of France, and the French, to decide how many foreigners they want on their soil."

Asked about his Reagan-style catchphrase "France is back", he readily admitted: "I never hesitate to use a slogan that works."

Mr. Le Pen's red white and blue posters put over a simple message: "Two million unemployed is two million immigrants too many." With unemployment in France now up to 10.3 per cent of the

workforce and still rising, the message finds a ready audience.

Founded 13 years ago, the National Front scored with other extreme right groups a dismal 0.35 per cent of the vote in the last legislative elections in 1981.

It gained its first deputy in the National Assembly when a sitting member joined the party last year. But for the next elections in 1986, the front is credited by opinion polls with nine per cent of the national vote. If President Francois Mitterrand fulfils his promise to introduce a system of proportional representation, Mr. Le Pen could even hold the balance of power at the head of a group of several dozen deputies.

A poll by the Sofres organisation shows that the front gets its support from all sectors and classes of the French population. But its support is greater in cities than in rural areas or small towns, and is strongest where there are many immigrants or where the crime rate is high.

The cantonal elections on Sunday are for the conseil general (county council) in each of the 96 departments. Voting will take place in 1950 cantons, half the

total, each electing one councillor for a six-year term.

Mr. Le Pen, who spent some 20 years in the political wilderness until 1983, shows no sign of returning there despite the growing consensus in the political establishment against him.

For French Television viewers, he used to be the man with a piratical black eye-patch. Mr. Le Pen, who lost an eye in a political brawl nearly 30 years ago, has since switched to a less conspicuous glass eye.

The son and grandson of Breton sailors, he never saw his dream of becoming a navy officer come true and volunteered instead for the service with the Foreign Legion in France's ill-fated Indochina campaign in 1953.

In 1956, he was elected to the National Assembly as a representative of the short-lived small business party of extreme rightwinger Pierre Poujade.

The same year, he took a six-month leave from parliament to serve as a parachute officer in the Algerian war. He lost his seat in 1962, the year Algeria became independent.

WATER AUTHORITY CONTRACTS OF WASTE WATER COLLECTION SYSTEM FOR GREATER AMMAN

1. The Water Authority invites experienced contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan and contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who have been pre-qualified as General and First and Second Class Water and Sewerage Contractors and General Class Roads and Buildings Contractors by the Ministry of Public Works of Jordan to submit bids for the supply and construction of the sewerage network mains sub-mains and house connections in Greater Amman as follows:

68/85 The contract SW-S1 consist 32 km ranging in size from 150 mm to 500 mm in Sweileh-Safout-Ain Al Basha.
69/85 The contract BQ-S1 consist 57 km ranging size from 150 mm to 600 mm in Baqa Camp.
70/85 The contract LW-S1 consist 26 km ranging in size from 150 mm to 300 mm in Lower Wadi El-Sir.
71/85 The contract T1-1 consist 27 km ranging in size from 150 mm to 500 mm in Tabarbour.
72/85 The contract SH-S1 consist 19 km ranging in size from 150 mm to 500 mm in Shniller Camp.

2. A prebid conference will be held on Sunday 24th March, 1985 beginning at 9:00 hours at the office of the Water Authority.
3. On March 24, 1985 contractors or joint ventures shall submit in a sealed envelope in person or by mail the information on the firm or on the firms of the joint venture requested in the Instruction to Bidders. The information will be evaluated and contractors will be informed whether or not to submit a bid.
4. The bids are due not later than 12:00 noon, Jordan local time on Saturday 20th April 1985 at the office of the Water Authority.
5. Contract documents may be examined and purchased at the following address:

Water Authority
Jabel Hussein
Nabulus Street,
P.O. Box (2412)
Amman, Jordan
Telephone: 686111
Telex: 22436 WAJ JO.

The cost of the initial copy of the contract documents purchased by a bidder is JD 150 per set, and the cost of any additional copies of the contract documents by a bidder is JD 75 per set. No refunds will be made for the return of full or partial sets of contract documents. Copies of the contract documents will be sent to prospective bidders by the Water Authority upon receipt of the proper amount in a bank cheque.

Eng. M.S. Kiani
President
Water Authority

Channel 6 Preview

Heartbreak and heavyweights on Channel 6

By John Boteler

WHILE IT may not be the ideal way in which to end a peaceful Friday holiday, the new series of documentary programmes at 10:15 is promising to provide a lot of food for thought. This week's offering is "Just Another Missing Kid". On July 10, 1978, Eric Wilson left his home in Rockville Park, near Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, for a five-day drive to Boulder, Colorado, where he was to attend a summer course. Four days later he called home from Nebraska and told his brother that he had trouble with his van. He promised to call the next day at five o'clock. It was the last time the Wilson family ever heard from Eric.

"Just Another Missing Kid" is the story of the Wilson's family search for Eric. It is a documentary which exposes the glaring inefficiencies and failures of the American judicial system. Eric Wilson's story was similar to those heard by police every day from worried parents. Perhaps that was why the Ontario Provincial Police reacted as they did when Mrs. Wilson and her eldest son Peter went to report Eric's disappearance. The OPP refused to enter information about Eric and his van into an international crime computer which would alert police forces across North America. Their reasoning was that the computer "would be absolutely jammed with missing cars and vehicles and people if they listened to every mother who came in and said: 'My son has gone away on a trip and he hasn't called me when he said he was going to call me'." The Wilsons' cold reception at the OPP headquarters was not the first they would get from law enforcement agencies in both Canada and the U.S. As Peter Wilson says in the programme: "Children are brought up to believe if they get into trouble they go to the police and they will be helped. This was my first encounter with the police and I can tell you they certainly were not compassionate — they didn't help at all." When the Wilsons saw that the police weren't going to search for Eric, they decided to take matters into their own hands. Peter and his father, Dr. William Wilson, travelled to Nebraska and started searching, stopping at every police detachment along the way. Everywhere, the response was the same. "Well, maybe he ran away", or, "If you don't hear from him in thirty days, get back to us".

Neither the state police nor, initially, the FBI, could be persuaded to help search for Eric.

The Wilson family finally decided to hire their own one-man police force, a private detective called Jim Conway. He is a street-wise Irishman, an ex-cop who worked the toughest beat in New York City: the South Bronx, the region the police call Fort Apache. Conway's "dumb-dick" exterior belies a mind like a steel trap. It was through Conway's work that the Wilson family would finally discover what had really happened to Eric. He had been stabbed to death on a backroad in Colorado for his van, \$700 in travellers' cheques, and two credit cards. Four months after Eric's last call home, Raymond Hatch and Bertram Davis were arrested and charged with his murder. Neither Hatch and Davis were ever brought to trial. They pleaded guilty and, through plea-bargaining, could be out on the streets any day.

The Wilsons' private investigation cost them approximately \$50,000 and has taught them a lot about how the judicial system works. The first lesson, admits Mrs. Wilson is: "There seems to be two systems (of justice). There seems to be a public one and a private one. If you've got the resources as we had, to actually do the work for the police, then you can get the answers. For a family that doesn't have that and can't afford that in terms of their own personal resources, then the system just doesn't work. It's not available to them". When he was asked what he would say to the parents of a missing child, Eric's father replied simply: "Keep looking". Was that the best advice he would give? "Well, what else can you do?"

"Just Another Missing Kid" was made by "The Fifth Estate" the investigative programme of CBC, the Canadian television company. In the year-long investigation undertaken by the programme, they uncovered some startling evidence that the Wilson family hadn't been aware of when they first approached "The Fifth Estate". Had the judicial system worked effectively in the months preceding Eric's death, Raymond Hatch would have been in jail on July 15th, 1978. And Eric Wilson would still be alive today. Apart from winning seven national and international TV awards "Just Another Missing Kid" also won an Oscar in 1983 as the

best documentary feature.

Elsewhere on Channel 6 this week, large, inflatable objects would seem to be the order of the day. Tonight, for example, that human balloon Orsoo Welles invades the 8.30 programme slot with one of his "Great Mysteries", thus taking over the reins from the long-serving "Tales of the Unexpected". But I'm told that the differences between the two programmes are in name only. Then, after the 9.10 "Varieties" programme — probably full of pop stars with large, inflated egos, the star of the 10.10 feature film is a bloated gas balloon, in "Zep-pella". This dirigible, (for such is its technical name), is helped out by Michael York, (not at all large or inflatable, but with a trusty stiff upper lip), and Elke Sommer who, while not large, still manages to float around decorously in this rather ridiculous World War I adventure/spy epic which relies on super-heros and the big balloon, which is used on a mission to obtain valuable English documents and thereby destroy British morale. It all sounds like a lot of hot air to me.

Someone else who was large and with an inflated ego was Whitaker Chambers, one of the three main characters in "Concealed Enemies", a new four-week series that begins this Tuesday at 9.10. It concerns itself with one of the most scandalous episodes in recent American history: The Alger Hiss spy case of 1948, which shook the very foundations of American democracy and set the stage for Senator Joseph McCarthy's reign of terror in the 1950's. The series focuses on the three highly complex protagonists in this human and political drama. Chambers, the portly ex-Communist and a senior editor at Time magazine, was the accuser. Hiss, the sophisticated scholar and longtime government servant, was the accused. And rising to fame on the backs of both was the most famous used-car salesman of them all: Richard Milhous Nixon, the ambitious young congressman from California. A member of the controversial but powerful House Committee on Un-American Activities, Nixon staked his career on the conviction that Alger Hiss had been a spy for the Soviet Union during the years leading up to the Second World War.

The last of this week's heavyweights appears at 9.10 on Wednesday. It is the long-awaited documentary on the walking pear himself: Alfred

Hitchcock. It traces his remarkable fifty-five year career in films, with plenty of examples from his work. Be patient with those younger viewers who all complain that he stole the ideas from Mel Brooks.

Otherwise, the week's viewing is much the same as usual. Tomorrow, (Sunday), starts with "Don't Wait Up" at 8.30. One good thing about this second series is the way each episode follows closely on what happened the week before. So this time around we will probably find that father and son will also be sharing the same car. "Crime Inc.", at 9.10, this week concerns itself with "The Business of Crime". Legitimate businesses are prey to organised crime as much as any others. The mob either buys into them and controls them from the top, or it takes over a company's debts, pays them off and under its cloak of respectability uses the business to launder illegal funds. As businessmen, Organised Crime members gain credibility and ultimately become influential in the political world. At 10.15 there's another episode of "Scarecrow and Mrs. King", "Magic Bus". Lee and Amanda are once again thrust into close proximity and learn that life in a motorhome can be hazardous to one's health, especially when the motorhome in question is actually the world's most lethal mobile assault weapon. After having his life saved by her last week, Lee should stop being so horrified at having to work with Kate. But at least her two children are kept firmly in the background.

One of the few bad things about "Duty Free", (Monday, 8.30), is the laughter-track. Without its continual and noisy intrusion this series would come across more as a fairly well scripted comedy, with some very 'dry' delivery, especially in the case of Amy. This week the two couples decide to take a trip up to the mountains. Amy has cashed the last of the travellers cheques, but David insists on buying presents with what remains of the speeding money. Unfortunately he buys one present too many. In "Serrell and Son", at 9.10, Kit completes his education, has a frightful argument with his mother, and, in the company of Maurice Pentreath, a university friend, descends on London where together they are introduced into the ways of the big wide world. This week's episode of "The Yellow Rose", at 10.15, is entitled "Villa's Gold".

When the Yellow Rose Ranch hires a new cook, she turns out to be a deadly killer who is searching for Pancho Villa's treasure! Tuesday, apart from "Concealed Enemies", has another episode of "Star of the Family" at 8.30, "I Got It Good", and "Hardcastle and McCormack" at 10.15 in "The Georgia Street Motors".

"Up the Elephant and Round the Castle" is Wednesday's comedy show at 8.30, in an episode called "Up the Public Spirit". Jim London learns that doing a good turn for a neighbour can get you into trouble, especially when you have a public-minded citizen like Councilor Allnut in your terrace, a self-righteous old busy-body of the first order. But a knuckle-rapping down at the labour exchange can hardly keep our Jim down; he soon comes bouncing back when he discovers that where there is a ladder there is a snake. 9.10 has the tribute to Hitchcock, while "Hatal" continues its bizarre existence at 10.15, in "Love And Honour". This week an English diplomat is responsible for a young woman's overdose yet is protected by diplomatic immunity. A woman's mysterious benefactor shows up after twenty years, and Julie seeks revenge on two handsome suitors who have made a bet on their success with her. There is also episode three of "Moonfleet" on Channel 3, at 6.10. John and Elzevir are in hiding after being accused of Maskew's murder, and waiting for the wound in John's leg to heal before they can take a ship to France and safety. A visit from Sexton Ratsey makes a dramatic change to their plans.

"Father of the Bride" is this week's episode of "Three's Company", (Thursday, 8.30). Having pretended to be married last week, Jack and Janet this week decide that Cindy should have a husband. A millionaire suitor may be every woman's dream, but it becomes a nightmare as Jack and Janet try to defend Cindy from an unwanted, rich boyfriend. But the oboozing Winstoo Cronwell III gets them round to his side by promising Jack the job of a head chef and Janet her own flower shop. Can Cindy be saved? It would appear that the film this Thursday is quite a long one, since it starts at 9.10. "The Memory of Eva Ryker" stars Natalie Wood, Ralph Bellamy and Robert Foxworth. An ocean liner was torpedoed at the outbreak of World War II. Years later a multimillionaire, (Bel-



Eric Wilson — "Just Another Missing Kid," Friday, 10:15

lany), starts to salvage the liner, on which his beautiful wife and scores of others perished, and the complicated plot unfolds. Wood plays Eva Ryker's mother in the flashback. It's an old-fashioned melodrama produced by Irwin Allen.

Friday has "Opeo All Hours" at 8.30. Unhappy at the amount of profit he loses to middlemen, Arkwright decides to market his own product. "Arkwright's Treacle Toffee" is dismissed as a nice idea, but with little sale potential. The hapless Granville is instructed to come up with a product that is in daily demand, yet cheap and simple to manufacture. At 9.10 "Murder She Wrote" continues to confuse real-life with the fiction of the classic whodunit detective novel. I rather doubt that the simplistic solutions offered to murder by Jessica and her friends are all that much of a comfort to the family of Eric Wilson, who is "Just Another Missing Kid" at 10.15.

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France seeks to install computers in every school and college

An ambitious French government scheme led by the energetic chairman of Club Mediterranee is seeking to install computers in every school and college in France. Paul Betts reports.

PARIS — Mr. Gilbert Trigano, the chairman of Club Mediterranee, the French holiday village group, acknowledges quite candidly that he is a computer freak. He has already set up 23 computer workshops in his holiday villages scattered around the beaches of the world for the enjoyment and enlightenment of his guests. He is now trying to do the same thing on a far grander scale for the French government by installing computers in every school and college in France.

Mr. Trigano was asked two months ago by Mr. Laurent Fabius, the Socialist prime minister, to become his special adviser on the government's ambitious school computer programme. While co-ordinating to run his holiday conglomerate, he has plunged into this new task with missionary zeal.

The first phase of the project was launched at the end of last month and involves a FF2 billion (\$1.9 billion) programme to install 120,000 computers and computer workshops in schools by the start of the new school year next September. "This is a big chance for France," says Mr. Trigano. "Our final aim is to have computer-aided education throughout the country."

Mr. Fabius has placed considerable political weight behind this programme. It forms an integral part of his broad strategy to modernise French attitudes to education and employment and in turn to modernise industry and the economy as a whole. It is also a key component in the government's efforts to come to grips with the dramatically rising problem of youth unemployment in France.

With the run-up to next year's legislative elections having already started, the project has inevitably come under attack from some of the government's political opponents as a gimmick. Members of the French educational establishment claim they have not been properly consulted and that the project will in any event probably founder once the French

administration and bureaucracy gets hold of it.

Mr. Trigano rejects these criticisms. He emphasises he has not set up a new bureaucracy within the government to put into place the computer programme. "We are a very small independent team responsible only to the prime minister. We are not a centralised organisation but a commando group that must move fast and efficiently to stimulate the regions to adopt the programme," he says.

The project will also give the French micro-computer and software industries an important boost. Although Mr. Trigano says that the government has not excluded buying some equipment from foreign suppliers (including IBM), the bulk of the orders will

go to French industry.

The nationalised Thomson electronics group is likely to do best out of the project. The group launched its first home computers last year, selling 100,000 on the domestic market in 1984 and another 10,000 in exports. The Education Ministry has just ordered 20,000 Thomson micro-computers for the school plan.

The nationalised group could win up to 80,000 of the 120,000 orders for the project, which would make a solid contribution to its target of selling 400,000 home computers in 1985. The company has just set up a subsidiary in West Germany to sell its microcomputers and is negotiating distribution deals in the U.K. and Italy.

Apart from Thomson, the nationalised computer group Bull will probably get the bulk of the remaining 40,000 orders, mainly for

semi-professional equipment for the computer workshops.

Despite the obstacles and difficulties the school programme is likely to encounter, Mr. Trigano, who at 64 is a small but extremely lively man, is confident it will work. For its part, the government also appears confident in Mr. Trigano's ability to get it off the ground.

This is not the first time President Francois Mitterrand has turned to the Club Mediterranee chairman, who is one of France's biggest business success stories in recent years. Mr. Trigano started as a Communist journalist on the official French Communist daily L'Humanite. Largely self-educated and always enthusiastic, he helped found the Club Med. In the 1950s and, while keeping his Left-wing views, built it up into a multinational conglomerate which is now quoted on the New York

Stock Exchange.

President Mitterrand turned to him before to set up the "Mission Trigano" computer workshops in underprivileged neighbourhoods of large French cities to help with the youth problem in these areas.

At the end of last year Bull launched its first IBM-compatible personal business computer called Mical 30. The school programme will give Bull, which has entered the highly competitive semi-professional personal computer market somewhat late in the day, a much needed boost for its new product.

Both Bull and Thomson have ferociously campaigned for the school computer orders. They were especially upset by an earlier proposal involving the construction of a plant in Brittany by the U.S. Apple concern to supply microcomputers for French schools. The Apple project has been

shelved.

Thomson's microcomputer business has also been helped by the company's association with the educational computer programmes broadcast on French national television. But the programmes, modelled on a BBC series, have so far failed to have a major popular impact. Mr. Trigano wants to see them beefed up.

He was also asked to organise the 1989 World Exhibition in Paris to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution. This project had to be abandoned, however, because of the opposition of Paris ratepayers and of Mr. Jacques Chirac.

Now, Mr. Trigano says, he is hoping to contribute practical and concrete ideas for a new revolution, in the French outlook on new technology — Financial Times news feature.

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Navratilova reaches indoor tennis semifinals

PRINCETON, New Jersey (R) — Martina Navratilova, seeking her fourth U.S. National Women's Indoor singles title, was forced to three sets by Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico Thursday night before advancing to the semifinals.

Navratilova finally overcame Fernandez 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 in a 92-minute quarterfinal that was decided when the 32nd-ranked player had two double faults.

"She (Fernandez) is a very talented player and with a little better footwork, she will make it to the top 10," said Navratilova, who plays doubles with the Puerto Rican.

Navratilova faces another tough challenge when she meets Hana Mandlikova in Friday night's semifinals. The Czechoslovak star, now ranked number three in the world, moved into the fourth round with an unexpectedly easy 6-1, 6-3 victory over Sylvia Hanika of West Germany in a 70-minute quarterfinal.

Earlier upsets led to a semifinal meeting between sixth-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden and unseeded Catherine Tanvier of France.

Lindqvist, ranked 15th, required only 46 minutes for a 6-2, 6-2 victory over second-seeded Wendy Turnbull. Pam Shriver of the U.S., the third seed, was bounced out in her first singles tournament after a three-month lay-off by an aggressive Tanvier, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3.

Lindqvist, 21, swept the final six games of the first set against an obviously below-par Turnbull, who has unable to extend herself in the rallies.

"I felt all right until I got out onto the court because I was coming down with the flu," said the 32-year-old veteran, who is ranked fourth in the world. "I thought

of defaulting at the start of the second set but I stuck it out."

Tanvier, who had never beaten a top 10 ranked player before, used vicious ground strokes and returns in taking away the net from Shriver.

Shriver, who had not played a tournament since suffering a shoulder injury at the Australian open last December, had a slight groin strain at the start of the second set but managed a service break in the fifth game for a 3-2 lead. Then Tanvier won the next four games in a row with service breaks in the sixth and eighth.

"I took my chances and got to the net as quickly as possible," said Tanvier after reaching the semifinal round in an American tournament for the first time.

Hanika felt she had had "a let-down" after two impressive earlier round victories. Mandlikova's service game proved overwhelming with Hanika managing only three points during a stretch of five service games.

Weller to defend boxing title

ROME (R) — West German Rene Weller will defend his European lightweight boxing title against Italian challenger Sebastiano Sotgia in Mannheim, West Germany, on April 27, Italian Boxing Federation officials said Friday.

The officials said West German boxing promoter Willi Stein had won a European boxing union tender to stage the fight.



FRIENDLY MATCH: The English soccer team Tottenham Hotspur Friday beat Kuwait national soccer team in a friendly match at Al Hussein Youth City stadium in Amman, Kuwait, 1982.

World Cup finalists are here for setting up training camp in preparation for the 1986 World Soccer Cup.

Czechs hammer Soviets

MOSCOW (R) — Czechoslovakia's Miroslav Mecer and Tomas Smid dealt the Soviet Union a pair of straight-set singles defeats on the first day of their Davis Cup world group first round tennis tie in Tbilisi Friday.

The Czechoslovaks, semi-finalists in 1984, showed they are formidable even without world number three Ivan Lendl, confined to his U.S. home with an ear infection.

The 21-year-old Mecer, ranked 29 in the world and a finalist in the U.S. Professional Indoor Tournament in January, beat Konstantin Pugayev, one of the most experienced Soviet players, 6-4, 6-3, 9-7 in the first singles in the Palace of Sports Friday.

Nicol goal saves Liverpool

VIENNA (R) — A priceless 85th minute goal by Steve Nicol earned European Cup holders Liverpool a 1-1 draw against Austria Vienna in their quarterfinal first-leg tie in the Hannapf Stadium Wednesday night.

The Scottish midfielder, whose tireless work often goes unnoticed in the Liverpool midfield, was first to react when an Ian Rush header came back off the crossbar and he forced the ball past Austrian goalkeeper Friedl Koncilia.

Though it was not a goal which will live in the memory, it will almost certainly prove crucial when the Austrians travel to Anfield for the second leg in two weeks time.

With Rush well held throughout

by Ewald Tuernmer, the Viennese dominated the match for long periods and deservedly went ahead through international striker Toni Polster in the 23rd minute.

The towering centre-forward collected the ball near the right touchline, rounded two Liverpool defenders, and cracked a glorious right-footer past goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar.

Grobbelaar, guilty of so many mistakes in the past in Europe, was in superb form and repeatedly thwarted the Austrians, particularly in the first-half when Herbert Prohaska tore apart the visiting defence at will.

On the only other occasion Grobbelaar was beaten, Bulgarian referee Bogdan Donchev came to Liverpool's rescue by ruling out Gerd Steinkogler's ninth minute "goal" for offside.

Eklund to meet Tangstad

COPENHAGEN (R) — Anders Eklund has a chance to follow in the footsteps of his distinguished compatriot Ingemar Johansson and become Sweden's third-European heavyweight boxing champion when he meets reigning title-holder Steffen Tangstad of Norway Saturday.

The 12-round fight is being held on Danish soil because boxing has been banned in both Sweden and Norway.

Eklund told a news conference his ambition was to follow Johansson, who won the world heavyweight title in 1959 against Floyd Patterson of the United States only three years after first winning the European title.

The only other Swede to win the European title was Olle Tanderberg in 1943.

"It was easier to win titles in those days," said Eklund. "Today boxers are better, but I simply cannot imagine losing to Tangstad. I am fully aware that Saturday's fight could be a turning point in my boxing career."

"I have got the better physique. My brawn's what counts. It's brute strength more than boxing talent which pays off in a 12-round contest," added the 27-year-old Eklund.

Copenhagen-based Tangstad, 25, who won the European crown here last November on points from former French holder Lucien Rodriguez, has not lost one of his 23 professional fights.

The less-experienced Eklund has won 10 of his 13 professional bouts to date. He won their only previous fight, in Sweden in 1977.

Tangstad, who is slightly shorter than his challenger, is tipped to retain his title unless Eklund, who is more impulsive and aggressive, can produce an early knockout punch.



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Basketball tournament scores

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Intercon 26	Ericsson 17
Goodyear 17	Grindlays 17
Peugeot 18	Goodyear 20
Intercon 21	Al Ahlyiah 13
Peugeot 20	Ericsson 13
Volvo 14	Peugeot 12
Volvo 18	Volvo 7
Goodyear 18	Goodyear 25 (overtime)
Intercon 35	

Mids	Cairo Amman 17
International Traders 20	Lego 11
Arab Wings 22	Marriott 10
American Express 26	International Traders 8
Arab Wings 21	Chase Manhattan 16
American Express 27	Lego 11
Cairo Amman 22	American Express 19
Cairo Amman 22	Cairo Amman 8
International Traders 22	International Traders 19
Arab Wings 23	

Seniors	Holiday Inn 20
Astra 34	Jordan Express 32
Foxboro 52	Astra 29
Jordan Express 44	Foxboro 28
Jordan Express 39	Foxboro 27
Jordan Express 34	

Adults	Yanks 44
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Elba 91	

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Amman Little League expresses sincere thanks to Hanbo Engineering Construction Company for their support and assistance.

Attention: American and U.S. permanent residents ("Green Card" holders)

A representative of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service will be holding a Taxpayer Assistance and Information Seminar on Tuesday, March 12, 1985 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For further information, please contact the Consular Section, American Embassy, Amman Tel. No. 44371 during office hours.

WATER AUTHORITY RAMTHA WATER AND SEWERAGE PROJECT CONTRACT R1/19/85 ADDENDUM No. (4)

The Water Authority announces that the contractors who have bought the tender documents for Ramtha Contract R1/19/85 may obtain Addendum No. (4) at the Water Authority office.

Eng. M.S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.0625/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4005/20	Canadian dollars
	3.4000/50	West German marks
	3.8625/55	Dutch guilders
	2.9170/90	Swiss francs
	68.81/84	Belgian francs
	10.4600/50	French francs
	2128.0/30.0	Italian lire
	261.60/75	Japanese yen
	9.6650/6800	Swedish crowns
	9.7550/7700	Norwegian crowns
	12.1850/2000	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	289.00/289.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities ended the last day of the account mixed in quiet trading with the FTSE 100 share index at 1530 GMT unchanged at 1,285.8, dealers said.

Lloyds Bank gained 10p to 537 after annual results in line with markets forecasts which accompanied a one for two capitalisation issue. Hawker Siddeley ended 16p lower at 425. Its Canadian subsidiary reported annual earnings of 35.8 million Canadian dollars against 38.75 for last year.

Among other leading issues ICI declined 6p to 834 and Tate and Lyle eased 13p to 450 while Becton and Dickinson at 219 both firmed 3p. Golds and North Americans were easier.

Government bonds gained up to 7/16 point as sterling rose four basis points to 11.2 in trade weighted terms. The U.K. government plans to issue £600 million in tranches of existing bonds, the Bank of England said.

BTR returned to 657 after 659 having extended its bid for Dunlop which firmed 2p to 51. B.P. added 15p to 566 in further consideration of Thursday's full year figures while Shell shaded 5p at 778 ahead of results next week.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime will bring many changes in relationships unless one is prepared to accept different conditions and go along with them in a harmonious fashion.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to cooperate with each one of your partners and make allowance for their individual needs in this modern world.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have many duties to perform which are radically different from each other, so study the solution to each well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try to improve your fun activities so they work out more smoothly and give you greatest satisfaction. Be discreet.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Forget that moodiness and show forth that you are dependable and thoughtful of their needs.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Perk up your thinking when you are with friends who are dynamic and you can easily hold your own with them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure you get the right price for any improvements you want to make on your property. Be sure to study periodicals.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study into new ways of improving your appearance and be more charming. Then later get out socially and make a good impression.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get into personal problems that need your attention and solve them quickly and accurately. Do not neglect to get shopping done.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure to choose the right friends who can assist you to gain a cherished wish. Then show your gratitude.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure you handle financial affairs wisely so that you do not jeopardize your credit in any way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can get good ideas today that will help you to expand, but separate the wheat from the chaff, as it were.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Consult with an expert if you want to make your environment more charming and know the right things to do.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will want to cooperate with others and be of help, but should be more discriminatory, otherwise your progeny could get into trouble and lose out where the self is concerned. Teach to adhere to the finest types of persons who will appreciate the fine artistic sense in this nature.

Rich countries continue to dominate world lending

PARIS (R) — Rich countries continued to raise much more capital than developing nations through bond issues in February but fewer large loans have been granted in recent months than at any time since 1977, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Thursday.

Provisional figures for the 24-nation group of non-communist industrial nations showed that its members took 89 per cent of money raised on the capital markets in February after 82 per cent in January.

The United States was the largest borrower, taking \$4.9 billion. Japan, France and Italy each borrowed more than \$1 billion.

But loans to developing countries continued to decrease, totalling \$671 million against \$1.74 billion the previous month. No loans for Eastern Europe were arranged, the OECD said.

Total capital raised by all borrowers fell to \$17.45 billion down \$4.66 billion from January, while bonds issued outside the debtor country rose to a new record of \$13.93 billion, \$500 million more than last November's peak.

However, the figures showed that the annual rate of new syndicated loans issued in the three months up to the end of February fell to \$ billion, the lowest since 1977.

Industrial states appear split on U.S. trade round

WASHINGTON (R) — Deep divisions are appearing between the major industrial nations over efforts to start a new round of global talks, U.S. officials and Western diplomats said Thursday.

The officials said France, disturbed by the distortions to trade from an overvalued dollar, wanted any talks on cutting trade barriers linked to an international monetary conference. Italy and the European Community's executive commission were sympathetic, they added.

A major row could flare up at next month's ministerial meeting in Paris of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

"We are not accepting the link. It's a false issue," said one senior American official who asked not to be named.

The diplomats also said the split could carry over to the May economic summit in Bonn bringing together the government leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada, and Italy, and the head of the European Commission.

The sources said the suggestion that trade talks should be linked to currency problems was raised by Mr. Jacques Attali, French President Mitterrand's personal representative, at a recent preparatory meeting for the Bonn summit.

But the United States, which has resisted earlier French demands for a monetary conference, has told Paris that Western finance ministers are already grappling with the monetary issue and a fresh forum is not needed.

Western diplomats here said despite vocal public support from other European nations for a new trade round to counter protectionism, there was deep uneasiness among them in private.

At the forefront of their concerns, the diplomats said, was the American proposal to include services and agriculture in a new multilateral trade round. But the United States appears to have won enthusiastic backing for this from Japan and Canada.

One senior U.S. official said that if France blocked a unanimous accord on the trade talks at the summit, "the danger they're running is that U.S. policy could become unpredictable."

The official said if the bid for a new trade round collapsed, it could undermine administration opposition to congressional demands for a surcharge on imports.

EC ministers fail to agree on car pollution standards

BRUSSELS (R) — After 19 hours of talks, European Community environment ministers failed Thursday to agree on plans for cutting air pollution from cars.

A commission official told journalists that the ministers were deadlocked on proposed emission standards for medium-sized cars between two and 1.4 litres.

He said there had been also no agreement about a timetable for making new standards compulsory in the Community.

The official said that while ministers reaffirmed their commitment, made last December, to reduce emissions from cars with an engine size above two litres from 1988, there was virtually no move on medium and smaller cars.

Some delegations wanted further consultations and ministers would meet again on March 20 to consider several working papers hammered out during the session, he said.

"The British had the most fundamental difficulty on the combination of standards and dates for medium-sized cars," the official said.

Another problem was West Germany's plan for tax incentives to favour lower-pollution cars. France, Britain and Italy think the idea is against Community law.

The official said, however, that this issue was not the main reason for the failure of the talks.

UAE to cut expenditure

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) government will cut back government spending this year because of reduced oil revenues, minister of finance and industry Sheikh Hamdan bin Ali Maktoum said in an interview Thursday.

He gave no figures, but told the Dubai-based Al Bayan newspaper that his ministry had prepared some proposals on ways to cut down government spending without hitting basic services.

Sheikh Hamdan said there would be no new government jobs in 1985 and investment would be devoted to completing unfinished projects.

Official budget figures for 1984 have not been released. But the newspaper said the UAE, now producing about 950,000 barrels of oil a day, suffered its fourth successive budget deficit of about 4.3 billion dirhams (\$1.17 billion) on spending of 17.2 billion (\$4.7 billion) last year.

UAE, Pakistan sign \$45m contract

Meanwhile, Pakistan and the UAE Thursday signed a \$45 million contract to lay an underwater telephone cable between the two countries, the official Emirates News Agency reported. It said surveys on the project, to be completed in 22 months, would start within 10 days. The cable will be built by a Japanese company and supervised by a Swedish firm. It is to provide 1,200 telephone lines, the agency said.

Dollar edges downwards

LONDON (R) — The dollar shed overnight gains on the European currency markets Friday in erratic trading amid fears of central bank intervention, which did not materialise.

Foreign exchange dealers said efforts by bankers to avoid getting their fingers burnt by matching their buying and selling orders ahead of the weekend added to the volatile conditions.

The dollar closed at 3.3955 marks in Frankfurt, just over four pence below its day's high in Europe of 3.4360. It later moved upwards in London to 3.4125.

Thursday the dollar was boosted in a late trading in New York by news of a \$3.6 billion rise in U.S. M-1 money supply figures, which were higher than private forecasts and prompted speculation about higher interest rates.

But the absence of the central banks from European trading Friday added a note of caution and dollar interest evaporated.

The pound sterling recovered as the dollar edged down to a late quote in London of \$1.0685, 0.5 cents higher than Thursday. In Zurich the dollar closed at 2.8895 Swiss francs, over 1% centimes lower than Thursday's close.

Meanwhile, central bankers will review tactics in their fight against the strong U.S. dollar at a meeting in Basel this week, conscious that heavy intervention has so far had little lasting effect.

Strong dollar may force Israel to devalue shekel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The strength of the United States dollar has severely hit Israeli exports, increasing pressure on the government for a substantial devaluation of the shekel, government economic sources said Friday.

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics, exports for the first two months of this year were \$876 million, representing an 11 per cent average monthly decline compared with the last four months of 1984.

The sources said the Bank of Israel's policy of linking the value of the shekel to the inflation rate, currently 400 per cent a year, meant the Israeli currency was substantially overvalued against major European ones.

"Our goods have been priced out of their main markets, namely Western Europe. If this goes on, the government will have little alternative but to devalue, despite its reluctance," one official said.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres disclosed last month that he had turned down U.S. advice to devalue the shekel, saying this would further fuel inflation.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is in Washington, seeking \$800 million worth of aid in addition to the \$2.6 billion the United States has already given Israel this year.

As Israel has to pay back \$7 billion in foreign debts this year and foreign currency reserves are falling, officials say the extra aid is essential to avert an imminent foreign currency crisis.

But Mr. Mordechai, speaking to reporters before his departure, claimed that the government's strategy of fighting inflation with an eight-month wage and price restraint agreement was succeeding.

He also claimed that Israel also succeeded in cutting its balance of payments deficit by almost \$1 billion to just over \$4 billion last year.

Study warns against indexation

Meanwhile, a Washington-based think tank said Wednesday that if inflation is to be attacked successfully in Israel, the complex system of indexation must be fundamentally reformed.

In a major study of massive inflation the Institute for International Economics concluded that a rigid system where incomes and the value of contracts are sheltered from inflation, or indexed, promotes price increases.

"Although indexation can be useful in some circumstances, rigid indexation posed a serious obstacle in reducing inflation," the report said.

The report said that Israel already has minor flexibility in its indexation system and must make a major attack on its budget deficit and other economic fundamentals.

The report noted that in developing countries, which must generally rely on other countries for markets for their products, indexation can cause a real problem if there is a major shock, such as the sudden increase in oil prices in 1973.

When this happens, the ability to adjust realistically to the new set of conditions is retarded leading to other economic problems, the report said.

Taipei asks banks to bail out more than 100 Taiwanese firms

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwanese banks have agreed to offer loans to more than 100 companies crippled by a major bank scandal involving the financially-troubled Cathay Group, government officials said Thursday.

Mr. Philip Wang, director of the economic ministry's small and medium business administration, told reporters the firms faced financial difficulties because they were owed money by Cathay subsidiaries.

"To rescue these companies, we have asked both private and government banks to extend loans to tide over their problems," he said.

He said the administration was drafting a proposal for an emergency fund for the firms, but did not give details.

Depositors withdrew more than \$500 million in a run on two Cathay Group banks in the past three weeks, government sources said. The flow slowed after the government took over management of the banks.

Cathay Group is one of Taiwan's biggest industrial groups. Authorities earlier began a probe into alleged official involvement after members of parliament accused senior government officials of tolerating unethical business practices in the past decade and called for a full government investigation, court officials said.

Two more senior Cathay executives were detained Thursday, bringing the total number of arrests to 28, they said. Mr. Tsai Wan-Chun, founder of Cathay Group, his son, Tsai Chen-Chou, and a senior company executive, were charged last week with financial fraud. The others have not been charged.

The court officials said investigators were also probing whether a government supervision team had leaked any information to Cathay owners before the finance ministry last month suspended the leading business of Tenth Credit Cooperative Bank.

The bank loaned \$75 million to Cathay Plastics shortly before the government announcement which triggered runs on Cathay banks including Tenth Credit.

Cathay Group, with combined assets of \$2.5 billion, operates more than 80 companies ranging from shipping to insurance and construction to hotels.

USSR plans to boost gas exports

HELSINKI (R) — The Soviet Union plans to increase its natural gas exports from last year's 67 billion cubic metres to around 100 billion by the end of the century, a senior Soviet official told reporters.

Mr. N.G. Osipov, deputy foreign trade minister with special responsibility for energy exports, said Thursday night the Soviet Union's total production of natural gas last year was 600 billion cubic metres. Oil production was 615-620 million tonnes.

But lengthy frosts plunging to minus 55° centigrade this winter had made production almost impossible, he said.

Meanwhile, Finland's state-owned oil company Neste said it signed a contract here Thursday to boost its annual purchases of Soviet natural gas to between 2.4 and 3.4 billion cubic metres during the years 1986-2008.

Finland imported 600 million cubic metres of Soviet natural gas in 1983 but the figure rose somewhat last year.

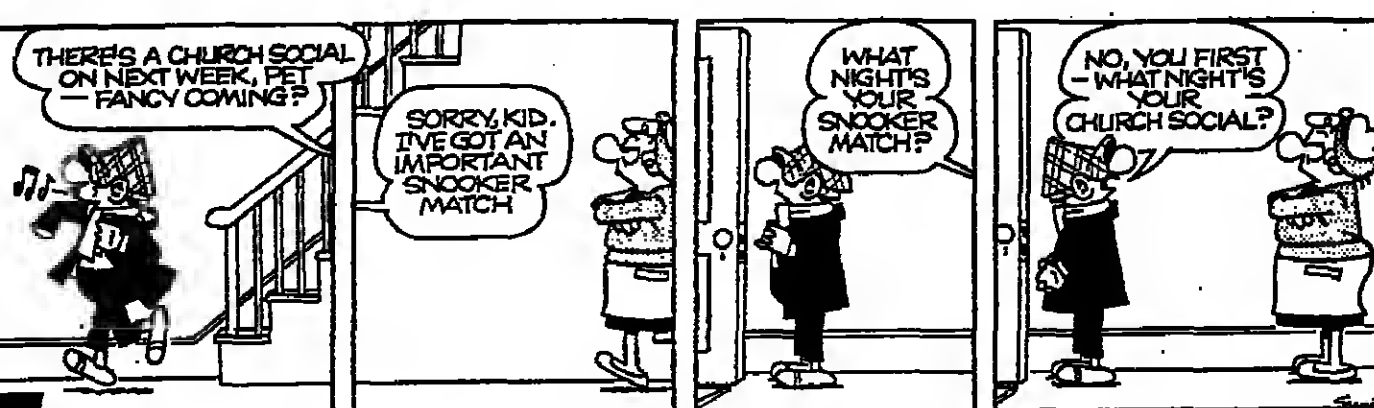
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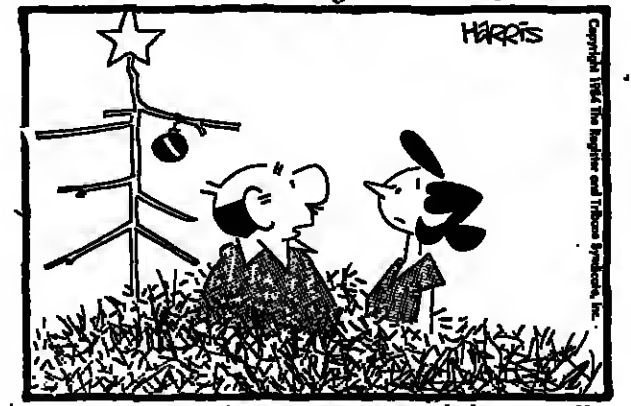
Mutt 'n' Jeff



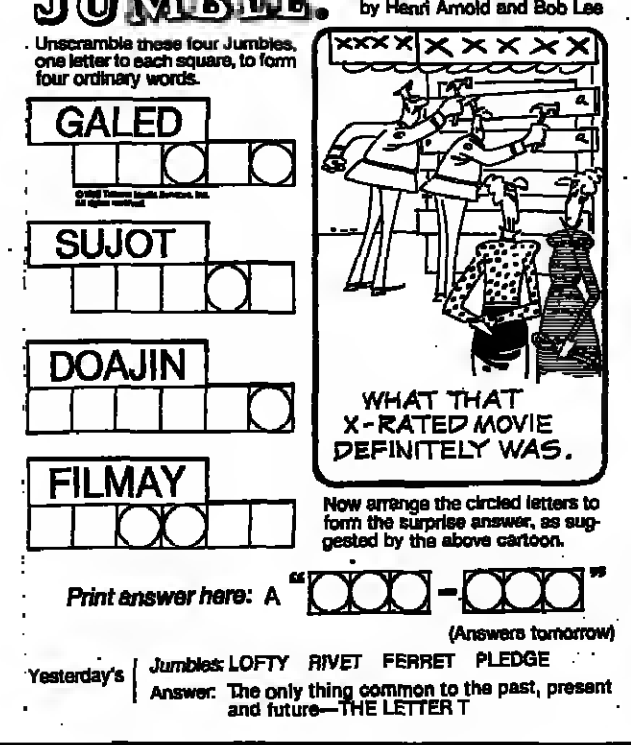
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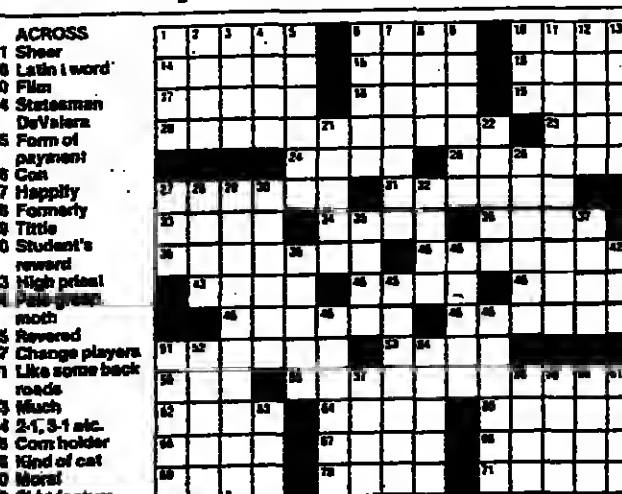
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Hans Arnold and Bob Lee



THE Daily Crossword by Louise Sabin



Moscow: U.S. wants to take Star Wars out of talks

MOSCOW (R) — Pravda accused Washington Friday of wanting to take discussion of space weapons out of U.S.-Soviet arms talks due to begin in Geneva on Tuesday.

The official Soviet daily said President Konstantin Chernenko had made clear that there could be no agreement in Geneva that did not include the embryonic U.S. Star Wars anti-missile project and that any accord would have to link space and nuclear arms.

"It is impossible to limit, much less reduce, nuclear weaponry unless effective measures have been taken to prevent an arms race in space," Pravda said.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper said Washington's Western European allies were making a mistake by approving and participating in the project to create a comprehensive defence against missiles from outer space, which the U.S. administration calls the "Strategic Defence Initiative."

"Their position is short-

sighted," Pravda said. "The plans to create such a system have nothing to do with defence. They are aggressive in character and their real meaning is to allow the USA to make an atomic first strike under the cover of a 'space shield'."

Meanwhile President Ronald Reagan was expected to dispatch his arms control team on a mission to try to persuade Soviet Union it has nothing to fear from the president's Star Wars missile defence plan.

The negotiators meet their Soviet counterparts in Geneva on Tuesday to resume arms talks after a 15-month hiatus and an all-out Soviet campaign against the Star Wars research programme, formally called the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

During the negotiations the

U.S. side will conduct what officials describe as a seminar on why the two superpowers should consider a transition to mixed offensive and defensive systems in the future instead of continuing to rely solely on the doctrine of nuclear retaliation.

National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, coordinating the U.S. negotiating policy, Thursday said this long-standing doctrine, known as mutual assured destruction, was discredited.

Administration officials say the \$26 billion SDI programme, which has aroused furious debate within the United States, is not a bargaining chip in the negotiations, although they believe it is a factor in the Soviet return to Geneva.

It will be chief negotiator Max Kampelman's task to explain the SDI theory to the Soviet side.

Travelling with him to Geneva will be former Senator John Tower, who is in charge of Strategic Arms Reduction (START)

talks, and career diplomat Maynard Giltman, who will lead negotiations on medium range missiles.

Both sets of missile talks were stalled when the Soviet Union broke them off in late 1983 following deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe.

The three men will breakfast with Mr. Reagan at the White House, after which Mr. Reagan is to bid them farewell in a Rose Garden picture-taking ceremony.

Talking to reporters Thursday, Mr. McFarlane said the United States was not urging a change of nuclear doctrine immediately. He said evolution towards a defensive system of deterrence would have to be preceded by discussion with the Soviet Union on how both sides could benefit.

He said "the Soviets don't have to worry about" the United States achieving superiority by building up its defensive and offensive systems together because "we would not and could not do that."

Hayden: No role for Khmer Rouge in peace talks

BANGKOK (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said in Hanoi Friday that the Peking-backed Khmer Rouge should be excluded from Kampuchean peace talks, the Vietnamese News Agency (VNA) said.

VNA, monitored here, quoted Mr. Hayden as telling a news conference that Australia "does not believe that it can be a productive development of negotiations... if Pol Pot were to be included in the process. We do not recognise Pol Pot or any of his clique."

Two weeks ago Mr. Hayden told Kampuchean guerrilla coalition leader Prince Norodom Sib-

anouk that Canberra would be willing to convene international talks on the Kampuchean problem in Australia.

Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge is the most powerful of three guerrilla factions in Sihanouk's U.N.-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

China and the two non-Communist factions within the CGDK have ruled out any negotiations without Khmer Rouge participation.

The Khmer Rouge has been blamed for the deaths of possibly millions of Kampuchians during

four years of rule, ended by Vietnam in 1979.

Meanwhile, Thai and foreign journalists came under Vietnamese artillery fire Friday as they drove near the Kampuchean border to cover fighting between Thai and Vietnamese forces.

None of the journalists was injured as they fled two buses and scattered for cover.

They were on a trip organised by the Thai military to north eastern Thailand, Vietnamese forces have been fighting Thais there while trying to overrun the nearby Kampuchean mountain stronghold of guerrilla leader Prince

Norodom Sihanouk.

At least a dozen artillery shells burst over the buses 12 kilometres inside Thailand and the journalists were trapped there for about an hour as shrapnel fell.

Thai military officers said about 1,000 Vietnamese troops were fighting desperately to take two hills about two kilometres inside Thailand. The hills guard the rear of Sihanouk's Green Hill headquarters, also known as Tatum.

Green Hill is the only major guerrilla base still intact since Hanoi's troops launched their offensive last November.

French gendarme killed during Kanak protest

NOUMEA (R) — A French gendarme was knifed to death in France's troubled Pacific territory of New Caledonia Friday as pro-independence Kanaks — local Melanesians — staged a day of protest, police said.

The attack near a village in the far north of the territory came as thousands of Kanaks marched in the white-dominated capital in defiance of a government ban.

The policeman had just dismantled a Kanak roadblock near

Pouébo about 490 kilometres north of Noumea where about 60 people had gathered when he was stabbed in the back, police said. He died 15 minutes later.

The victim's name has not been released and police said they had no immediate information on the assailant or the situation.

In the capital, police were out in force as banner-carrying Kanaks marched from the main square to the jail where about 90 detainees were on hunger strike.

Basque police chief killed by suspected guerrillas

VITORIA, Spain (R) — The chief of the Basque country's autonomous police force has been killed by a car bomb in what Spanish politicians described as a new escalation of violence by separatist guerrillas.

Lt-Col. Juan Carlos Diaz Arcocha, 52, headed the regional police set up in 1982 to replace Spanish police in the long war against ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) guerrillas.

Officials said he was killed by a bomb planted under his car when he stopped at a roadside bar for coffee on his way to work Thursday near this Basque regional capital.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but government spokesman Eduardo Sorillas said it seemed certain ETA carried out

the murder.

The killing was condemned by all leading Spanish political parties, who saw it as a serious escalation of ETA's 17-year-old campaign for a Marxist independent Basque state.

The former infantry officer and parachutist was the first guerrilla victim from the regional police force — called Ertzaina in the Basque language.

Some 2,000 men have joined the Ertzaina and another 5,500 are scheduled to be recruited over the next three years.

The force has so far been limited to guarding public buildings, traffic duties and some riot control, but it is being trained to bear the brunt of the anti-guerrilla fight when it reaches full operational strength.

Lange gives assurances to South East Asians

SINGAPORE (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said Friday he had given firm assurances to Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia that the current ANZUS crisis would have no effect on his country's commitment to the security of South East Asia.

Mr. Lange also told a news conference at the end of a three-day official visit he had managed to dispel some of the misconceptions in the area about Wellington's anti-nuclear policy.

He said the three South East Asian countries had expressed their concern that a possible split in ANZUS following New Zealand's ban on port calls by nuclear ships might imperil regional security.

Mr. Lange met Singapore Premier Lee Kuan Yew Thursday night and made a shuttle trip to Kuala Lumpur this morning for a one-hour conference with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad.

He also held an impromptu meeting at Singapore Airport with Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumatmadja who had arrived to open a new Indonesian embassy.

Mr. Lange stoutly defended Wellington's anti-nuclear stance, but said New Zealand would remain committed to the United States and Australia, its partners in Anzus.

Front makes known its new operation" long live 15 years of popular prolonged war," the caller said.

He said the colonel was killed to counter what he called the Army Press Committee's "campaign of psychological warfare and disinformation."

Col. Cienfuegos was the highest military official to be killed by a guerrilla hit team in the last four years of El Salvador's bloody five-year-old civil war.

Another caller identifying himself as a CERF spokesman later told an international news agency that commandos attacked the attorney general's office building in central San Salvador with gunfire Thursday night.

A guard at the building said

there was gunfire nearby but could not positively confirm the attack was against the attorney general's office.

The CERF is a splinter group of the Popular Liberation Forces (FPL), one of the five guerrilla groups fighting the U.S.-backed government under the banner of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

It broke from the FPL a year ago over political and tactical differences on how to conduct the war.

Although outside the FMLN organisation, it has been the most active urban guerrilla unit in San Salvador for the past year but has been joined in recent months by at least five other FMLN-linked urban commando groups.

Salvadorean rebels kill army officer

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A disident leftist guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the murder of a top army official in San Salvador, saying it marked the start of a new urban campaign.

The announcement by the Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Front (CERF) underscored a change in guerrilla strategy from active operations in rural El Salvador to increased actions in urban centres.

A caller to a local radio station identifying himself as a member of CERF said urban commandos shot armed forces spokesman Lt. Col. Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos as he was waiting to play tennis at a sports club.

"With the execution of Col. Aristides Cienfuegos by the Armed Forces Press Committee, the Clara Elizabeth Ramirez

Front makes known its new operation" long live 15 years of popular prolonged war," the caller said.

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PRIVATE CHAT: Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat chats with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas during their meeting in Tunis Thursday (AP wirephoto)

3 bombs explode in W. Germany

BOCHUM, West Germany (AP) — Police said three bombs damaged buildings in Bochum, Essen and Hamburg early Friday some 12 hours after left-wing terrorists bombed a department store in Dortmund, injuring eight people, police said.

An anonymous caller threatened more attacks in a 7 a.m. call to Essen police several hours after the latest explosions, which caused no injuries.

"We are now going farther west. Today it's Essen's turn," police quoted the caller as saying.

The West German government had warned after Thursday's blast that extremists supporting the anarchist Red Army Faction may be planning a wave of terror against the public.

The bombs in the neighbouring Ruhr district cities of Bochum and Essen both detonated about 2 a.m. (0100 GMT) at industrial offices, causing property damage but no injuries, police said.

In Bochum, the bomb was slipped through the front door mail slot of the Industrial Union of Mining and Energy. The explosion caused extensive damage to a reception desk telephone switchboard and a computer room, police said.

The bomb in Essen was placed in an electrical switching case near the entrance of a building housing the General Association of German Hard-Coal Mining. Damages were minimal, police said.

In Hamburg, police said a bomb exploded in a large stone flower box behind a building housing shipping offices, damaging nearby buildings.

There was no immediate word on the explosives used in the bombs.

4 die in south Indian clash after elections

NEW DELHI (R) — Four people were killed and 11 others were injured Friday when fresh election violence erupted in India's opposition-ruled southern state of Andhra Pradesh.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said an indefinite curfew was clamped on the old quarter of Hyderabad, the state capital, after police opened fire to restore order.

Street battles erupted between rival supporters of a Muslim political party and the rightwing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over rumours a fresh poll would be held in a local seat, PTI said.

At least 50 people have been killed in clashes, bomb explosions and when police opened fire at several polling booths across India during the ballot in 11 states and the union territory of Pondicherry last Saturday and Tuesday.

Andhra Pradesh was one of three states where opposition governments were re-elected, reinforcing their hold with large majorities.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi won an impressive mandate in northern India but failed to dent tough opposition in southern

Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring Karnataka.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao and Karnataka's Ramakrishna Hegde were Friday re-elected unanimously as leaders of their respective parties in their state assemblies, PTI said.

In last December's general elections, Mr. Rama Rao's regional Telugu Desam Party stood out alone against Mr. Gandhi's onslaught, emerging as the largest single opposition group in parliament.

In the local polls, the charismatic former film star won in all three state constituencies he personally contested while his Telugu Desam took two thirds of the assembly seats.

Mr. Hegde's Janata Party substantially increased its hold over Karnataka. Before the local poll Mr. Hegde, suffering from ill health, teetered on the brink of political oblivion at the head of a shaky administration shored up by local political allies.

The BJP was badly hit in the poll, losing heavily in its stronghold of central Madhya Pradesh where Congress (I) gained three quarters of the seats.

Filipino opposition unity efforts suffer setback

MANILA (R) — A group of leading politicians led by the widow of assassinated Benigno Aquino Friday declined to join in opposition efforts to pick a common candidate in presidential elections.

The group led by Corason Aquino decided not to join a unification campaign launched by the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), the largest opposition party in parliament.

A spokesman for the group said it would not join Sunday's multi-party conference sponsored by UNIDO's National Unification Committee (NUC) because it did not know enough about the NUC.

UNIDO President Salvador Laurel has openly stated his interest in running against President Ferdinand Marcos, while Mrs. Aquino's group has drawn up a list of 11 potential candidates.

The elections are due in 1987 but the opposition believes Mr. Marcos may call a snap poll.

"In the interest of genuine unification efforts, the group thought it best not to be involved in the conference," Emmanuel Soriano,

spokesman for Mrs. Aquino's group, said.

He said the group believed it might not be able to participate productively in the conference.

"There are many things about the NUC we still don't know about. The NUC should proceed with its work. Then perhaps at a later time we can harmonise differences," he said.

The group was organised last December to draw up a system of naming presidential and vice-presidential nominees in case of snap elections.

But many opposition leaders, including Mr. Laurel, said the selection process was undemocratic while critics of the NUC say it is heavily tilted in Mr. Laurel's favour.

Mr. Soriano said the group had not changed its stand that a contingency plan was needed.

The opposition is convinced the elections will be held soon. Mr. Marcos, who has been in power for nearly 20 years, has said he will seek re-election but has disavowed the possibility of a poll before 1987.

Taiwan receive evidence for writer's murder trial

TAIPEI (R) — A Taiwan court has received crucial evidence from the United States for use in the trial of three gangsters charged with murdering a Chinese-American writer in California, a court official said Friday.

Chief Prosecutor Shieh Weiping of the Taipei district court told reporters the evidence included eyewitness accounts and photos of the killing of Henry Liu on Daly City near San Francisco on Oct. 15.

California authorities also sent a coroner's report and a report of an initial probe by Daly City Police and the FBI.

Mr. Shieh did not say when the trial would start.

Justice Minister Shih Chi-Yang called for U.S. help on Wednesday to solve the murder, which has strained relations between Washington and Taipei and threatened American arms sales to the island.

Mr. Shieh did not give any dates for the trial but a district court magistrate said it would likely start in mid-March. Taiwan has promised an open and fair trial for the three men, one of whom has fled to the Philippines and will be tried in absentia.

Chen Chi-Li and Wu Tun, lea-

ders of the Bamboo Union gang, were indicted last week for murder, illegal possession of arms and organising criminal societies.

Mr. Shieh said Chen had told questioners that Taiwan's Military Intelligence Bureau trained him and ordered him to kill Mr. Liu.

But the bureau only admitted hiring Chen to spy against China and denied it had ordered him to kill anyone, the justice minister said.

Three senior officials, including head of the bureau Vice-Admiral Wang Hsi-Ling, have been arrested for involvement and turned over to military prosecutors.

Legal experts said the court would have difficulty in deciding whether to accept a recording made by Chen as evidence during the trial.

A Taiwan newspaper said Chen had recorded voices of senior intelligence officials ordering him to kill Mr. Liu. Chen taped the conversation in secret and left three copies with friends in the United States and Taiwan before his arrest last November, the paper said.

Mr. Liu, 52, who emigrated to the United States in 1967, wrote books and articles critical of Taiwan, including a biography of President Chiang Ching-Kuo.

COLUMN

3 Rock musicians killed during practice

THE HAGUE (R) — Three rock musicians were shot dead and two seriously wounded by gunmen during a rehearsal session here Thursday night, police said Friday. Two members of the unnamed band died in an office building on the outskirts of the city, where they began rehearsing last month after reforming following a two-year break. The third died later in hospital. Police said they believed two or more gunmen were involved in the shooting, after which they escaped. Police did not know the motive for the attack.

Over 50 suffer burns in fire-walking ritual

TAIPEI (R) — More than 50 villagers who took part in a fire-walking ritual in southern Taiwan to pray for good luck ended up in hospital, police said Friday. The villagers suffered burns of various degrees when walking over burning charcoal in their bare feet at a ceremony intended to bring luck and wealth. Officials were now meeting village elders to see if the annual tribute to the Goddess of Matsuo could be changed into a more humane ritual.

Penthouse shows Diana unzipping trousers

NEW YORK (R) — Since Britain's Princess Diana would never do such a thing in public herself, Penthouse magazine has done it for her. The new issue of the magazine that is known for its nude shows Princess Diana standing with a seductive grin on her face as she unzips a pair of tight-fitting jeans. Buckingham Palace need not fear: Security has not been breached. The picture is a realistic oil painting, not a photograph. The work was by Ott Homelker, who last July painted a portrait of presidential candidate Walter Mondale in a pair of boxer shorts. A Penthouse spokeswoman said the painting is being used as an advertisement on New York underground trains and in bus shelters in Los Angeles and in Newark, New Jersey. Underneath the unofficial Penthouse portrait is a poem: "She's the model of a modern princess, the darling of public and press. And although she's called 'shy', who could ever deny that she knows how to dress for success?" Penthouse said it did not expect Buckingham Palace to be amused.

U.K. to outlaw surrogate motherhood

LONDON (R) — Britain has announced it would introduce legislation outlawing surrogate motherhood for money. Social Services Secretary Norman Fowler said he would present a bill to parliament banning commercial agencies from recruiting women to have babies for others in return for cash. The bill would be put through parliament as soon as possible and would probably be adopted within a few months, he said. There was total agreement among members of parliament that surrogate motherhood for commercial gain was wrong. Britain's first known "rent-a-womb" baby, born to London housewife Kim Cotton on behalf of a U.S. couple in January, was immediately the centre of national controversy and a legal wrangle. The child, known only as "Baby Cotton", was made a ward of court while authorities deliberated on her fate but was allowed to leave the country after 10 days. "I think we should act quickly and certainly on this abuse and that we should act now," Fowler said in a statement.

Lonely men's village talk of wedding bells

PLANA, Spain (R) — The talk here Friday was of wedding bells after the bachelors of this remote Spanish Pyrenean village danced the night away with more than 100 would-be brides who had answered their lonely hearts call. "It was a great success. They were still dancing at five in the morning," said local taxi driver Antonio Vila. "There were more than a dozen couples getting along really well and some are already talking of marriage." Vila added. The unmarried men of Plana and neighbouring hamlets just south of the French border had appeared in a newspaper advertisement for brides because of an acute shortage of women in the area.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THE RIGHT TIME TO RUFF

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J96
♦ QJ4
♥ KQJ1063
♣ 2

WEST
♠ 74
♦ K976
♥ 2
♣ J96543

EAST
♠ A52
♦ 1053
♥ A88
♣ K1087

SOUTH
♠ KQ1083
♦ A82
♥ 754
♣ AK

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.

It is a natural tendency that, when you can give your partner a ruff, you do so at the first opportunity. That can be fatal. You must consider the hand as a whole.

North hid aggressively and South conservatively. As a result, they reached a four spade contract that would make far more often than not.

West decided his best chance to defeat the contract was to score diamond ruffs. East won the opening

diamond lead and dutifully gave his partner a ruff. Unfortunately, West had no way to reach his partner for a second diamond ruff, so declarer was able to force out the ace of trumps. When East returned another diamond and West could not ruff again, declarer had an easy time making the rest of the tricks.

East should have realized a diamond ruff would only give the defenders three tricks. Since South chose four spades rather than three no trump as the final contract, he was marked with exactly a five-card trump suit. That left West with only two trumps.

If West held an ace, he would surely have time to cash it. However, if West held the king of hearts, it was vital to set up that card before declarer could get discards on the diamonds.

Observe what would have happened if, at trick two, East had shifted to a heart. If declarer plays low, West scores the king of hearts. Sooner or later East will win the ace of trumps and give his partner a diamond ruff for down one. And if declarer rises with the ace of hearts to lead a trump, East wins, gives his partner a diamond ruff and West cashes the king of hearts for the setting trick.